THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

Security personnel cordon off area after a Kashmiri Pandit was shot dead by militants in Achan of Pulwama district on Sunday | ANI

KASHMIRI PANDIT ATM GUARD SHOT DEAD

In yet another targeted killing, terrorists on Sunday shot dead a 40-year-old Kashmiri Pandit man when he was on his way to a market in Pulwama district in Jammu and Kashmir. Sanjay Sharma was shot in the chest at point-blank range, barely 100 metres from his residence in Achan, around 11 am. Deputy Inspector General (DIG), South Kashmir Range, Rayees Bhat said it was a "planned attack". Political parties have condemned the killing.

CHHATTISGARH

Swami Atmanand English Medium Schools

Creating an education-friendly environment for children

School children in Chhattisgarh are getting excellent education in English medium. The chain of English medium schools started by the State Government is benefiting a large number of talented children belonging to the economically-weaker sections of society at the district headquarters and development block level. These schools have attained popularity in a very short time. The State Government is also starting Hindi medium schools under the Swami Atmanand schools apart from the English medium schools. These schools have world-class facilities.

There are 247 Swami Atmanand English medium schools and 32 Hindi medium schools that are currently being operated in the state, whereas 422 schools in the next academic session are being proposed. In the new proposed schools, 252 schools of Sarguja and Bastar will be included, so that children living in remote and distant zones can also study in the English medium. Considering the success of the English medium schools, the State Government is planning to launch English medium colleges in the next academic session.

The popularity of Swami Atmanand schools can be estimated from their widespread demand during Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's Bhent Mulaqat programmes and the fluent English spoken by the students of these schools. After the launch of these schools, parents of talented children belonging to lower-income groups are now relieved from the worries of paying exorbitant school fees in private schools. Swami Atmanand schools charge a nominal fee for superior-quality English medium education and provide facilities that match global standards, apart from a better educational environment.

Financial shortage not an obstacle anymore, children are getting excellent education

The main objective of the State Government for starting these schools is to provide quality education to the talented students of the state so that they can stand shoulder to shoulder with the students of other states in competitive exams. The CBSE syllabus is being taught in all the Swami Atmanand English and Hindi medium schools.

The Swami Atmanand Schools were launched on July 3, 2020. About 2.5 lakh children are studying in 247 schools launched under this scheme. These schools have ultramodern libraries, language labs, computers, and science labs apart from facilities for sports like tennis and badminton.

BRINGING EQUALITY

Swami Atmanand schools

247

ENGLISH MEDIUM

32

HINDI MEDIUM

Number of child beneficiaries

2.5 lakh

Proposed number of schools in next financial year

439

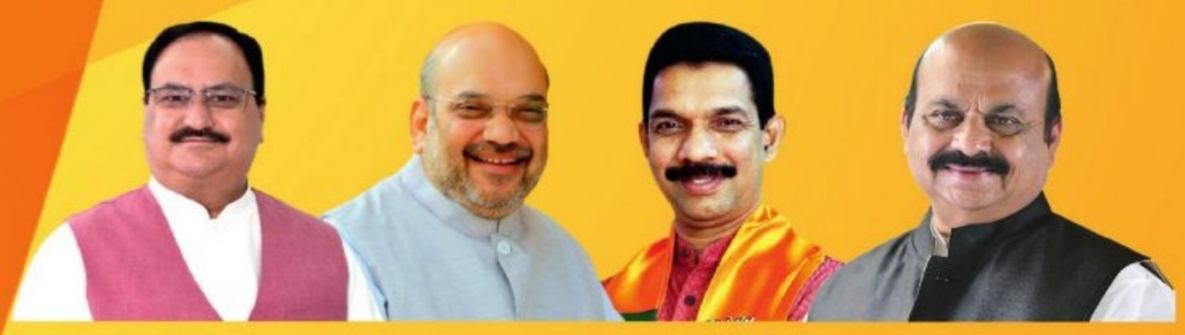
Swami Atmanand (Tulendra Verma) was born in 1929 in Barbanda village of Raipur District. His father Dhaniram Verma was a school teacher and his mother Bhagyavati Devi was a homemaker. Having moved with his father to Wardha, Tulendra would visit Sevagram that was nearby and sing hymns and bhajans which impressed Mahatma Gandhi.

In 1951, having secured first rank in M.Sc (mathematics) and bagging a scholarship for higher studies at Cambridge University, he decided to stay back and serve the homeland as a civil servant. He changed his mind yet again and spent all his time at an ashram in Dhantoli, Pune, eventually taking sanyas. He would spend the evenings singing hymns and reading philosophical discourses from religious texts. People attending his discourses started to donate generously and in 1961, the state government granted him 93,098 sqft land for construction of an ashram. The ashram was inaugurated on April 13, 1962.

The beautiful Swami Vivekananda Ashram of Raipur that we witness today is the result of his hard work. Swami Atmanand dedicated his life to the people of Chhattisgarh and on the government's special request inaugurated the school of spiritual and moral education in Narayanpur.

He firmly believed education was a powerful tool to bring social transformation on a mass scale. His legacy continues to inspire generations.

35357/1



A statesman who made the overall development of the state his life's goal.

A disciplined and loyal soldier of the party who built the party from the grassroots.

A farmers' leader who worked tirelessly for the welfare of farmers, women and the downtrodden.

Heartfelt birthday wishes to our guide and leader

Sri B S Yediyurappa ji

Former Chief Minister of Karnataka

Basavaraj Bommai Abhimanigala Balaga

THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

Polling officials leave for their polling stations ahead of the Meghalaya Assembly elections at Nongpoh in Ri Bhoi district on Sunday | PTI

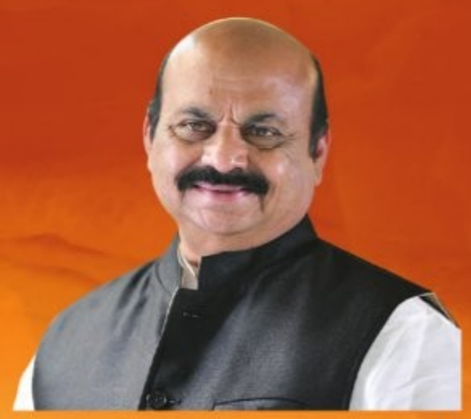
POLLING IN NAGALAND, MEGHALAYA TODAY

Assembly elections to Nagaland and Meghalaya will be held on Monday. Both states have a 60-member Assembly but voting will take place in 59 seats each. The stakes are high for National People's Party (NPP) and Trinamool Congress (TMC) in Meghalaya and Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) and BJP in Nagaland. A fractured mandate is expected in both states. Counting of votes will be taken up on March 2 | P12

Government of India | G20 | Government of Karnataka | Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

KARNATAKA

takes a giant leap in infra development
with projects worth over Rs. 5,800 crore
under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister.

Dedication of Projects to the Nation,
Foundation Stone Laying for New Projects and
Release of 13th Installment Benefit under PM-KISAN
worth over Rs. 16,000 crore
by Shri Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister
February 27, 2023

Inauguration of Shivamogga Airport

- Built about 10 km south of Shivamogga city in Sogane
- Cost of project - **Rs. 449 crore**
- Runway: 3.05 km, suitable for all aircraft (A320/Boeing, etc.)

Benefits
- Provides quick connectivity and accessibility to this region.
- New investments, creation of jobs and big boost to tourism in the region

Dedication of Projects to the Nation

Shivamogga Smart City Projects
- Smart city projects worth **Rs. 894 crore**
- Total population covered: **3.6 lakhs**

Foundation Stone Laying

Shivamogga - Shikaripura - Ranebennur New Line - 96 km
- Project cost: **Rs.995 crore**
- Passes through Shivamogga, Davangere and Haveri districts

Benefits
- Enhances connectivity of Shivamogga with Bengaluru – Mumbai mainline.
- Enhances connectivity to Malnad region (Western Ghats).
- Ease of transportation of Arecanut, spices, handicrafts and other agri products
- Boosts Eco and Cultural tourism (Jog falls, Ikkeri – Keladi, Bhadra Tiger Reserve, Sharavathi valley).
- Useful for students – Shivamogga is an education hub.

Shivamogga (Koteganguru) Railway Coaching Depot
- Project cost: **Rs. 105 crore**
- New station with 3 platforms and 4 running lines
- The take-off point for Shivamogga–Shikaripura-Ranebennur new line (96 km)

Benefits
- Facilitates starting of new trains from Shivamogga to cater to the growing demand.
- Enhanced connectivity from Malnad region (Western Ghats) to Bengaluru, Hubballi, Mumbai and Chennai.
- Decongests maintenance terminals in Bengaluru & Mysuru.
- New station at Koteganguru will serve as an alternative to the existing station in Shivamogga.

Multi-Village Schemes (MVS) under JJM
- No. of villages covered - **563**
- Total population covered – **4,43,510**
- Total Cost: **Rs. 953.5 crore**

National Highway Project Works
- Widening of 15 km NH 169A from Megaravalli to Agumbe. Cost: **Rs. 96 crore**
- Construction of Shikaripura bypass – NH 766C. Length: 6.5 km. Cost: **Rs. 66 crore**
- Providing road safety measures and curve improvements in NH-169 Shivamogga-Mangalore section. Cost: **Rs. 56 crore**

BELAGAVI

Dedication of Projects to the Nation

Redeveloped Belagavi Railway Station
- Cost of project: **Rs. 190 crore**
- Modern amenities, rooftop plaza

Benefits
- Second entry developed. It helps decongest the main entry.
- Improvement in circulating and parking area
- Divyang-friendly features such as lifts and escalators
- New Coaching Depot enables maintenance and starting of new trains from Belagavi.
- Enhances connectivity.

Doubling of Londa, Belagavi, Ghataprabha (Part of Londa Miraj Doubling Project)
- Length of section - 186 km
  Sanctioned length - 109 km
- Cost of project: **Rs. 932 crore**

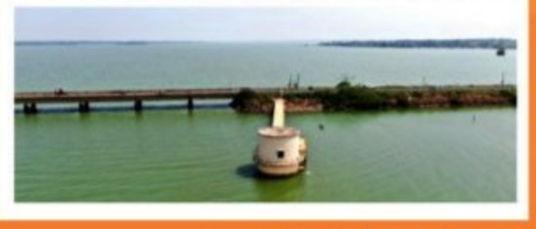
Benefits
- Enhances capacity and safety along the busy Mumbai-Pune-Hubballi- Bengaluru railway line.
- Avoids detention of express trains and saves time for travelers.
- Enhances connectivity along the Mumbai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor.
- Better connectivity will promote trade, commerce and economic activities in the region.

Release of 13th Installment Benefit under PM-KISAN

- Direct benefit of **Rs. 6,000** per year in three equal 4-monthly installments
- So far, **Rs. 2.25 lakh** crore transferred to more than 11 crore farmers in 12 installments.
- For the 13th installment period, more than a sum of **Rs. 16,000 core** is being transferred to **8 crore beneficiaries.**

Foundation Stone Laying

Belagavi district Multi-Village Schemes under JJM
- No. of villages covered: **242**
- Total population covered: **6,03,766**
- Total cost: **Rs. 1,120 crore**



As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

Watch the program live on DD News

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

TIRUNELVELI CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

E.Tender Two cover system

Tender Notice No. 58/2022-23 Dated 25.02.2023

1	Tender Inviting Authority Designation, Address	Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Tirunelveli.
2	Name of Work:	Solid Waste Management – Tirunelveli Corporation – Implementation of Solid Waste Management activities in all 55 wards through service provider / Agency /Contractor by using corporation vehicles on hire basis (E1/5854/2021) Estimate amount Rs.3322.80 Lakhs EMD : Rs.33,22,800/-
3	Web site Address	https://tntenders.gov.in (Tender document available from the above web site at free of cost)
4	Date and Time for the Bid document available	From 01.03.2023 upto 24.03.2023 upto 3.00 PM
5	Due date and time for submission of bids	24.03.2023 up to 3.00 pm
6	Place, Date and time of opening of bids	Tirunelveli Corporation main office, 24.03.2023 at 3.30 pm
7	Pre bid meeting Place, Date and time	Tirunelveli Corporation main Office, 08.03.2023 11.00 am

DIPR/ 1198 /TENDER/2023

Commissioner
Tirunelveli Corporation

" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

Possession Notice (For Immovable Property) Rule 8-(1)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-H FL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) rmad with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, a Demand Notice was issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower\Co-Borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **IIFL HFL** for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, If the borrower dears the dues of the **"IIFL HFL"** together with all costs. charges and expenses incurred, at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or transferred by **"IIFL HFL"** and no further step shall be taken by **"IIFL HFL"** for transfer or sale of the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)	Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
Mr. Ramesh R Mrs. Nagarathnamma (Prospect No 903403)	All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing:- Property No. 432/298, Total Area Ad Measuring 1,200 Sq.Ft., 7th Cross Lohith Nagar, Basavanahalli Grama, Kasaba Hobli Nelamangalla Taluk Bangalore, Bangalore Rural, 561213, Karnataka, India. Bounded By:- North- Site No.299 South- Private Property East- Site No.219 West- Panchayat Road	₹ 12,16,555.00/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Five Only)	10-Oct-2022	23-Feb-2023

For, further details please contact to Authorised Officer at **Branch Office:** "ADAM CHAMBERS," #11, Richmond Road, Bengaluru - 560025 or Corporate Office : IIFL Tower, Plot No. 98, Udyog Vihar, Ph-IV Gurgaon, Haryana.

Place : Bangalore, Date : 27/02/2023 Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.

IN THE COURT OF THE 41st ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU

Crl. Mis .No. 677 / 2023

BETWEEN : 1) Ashok, S/o Late. Muniswamy, Aged about 36 years, **2) Smt.Narayanamma**, W/o Late.Muniswamy, Aged about 65 years, Both are residing at No. 18/1, 8th Cross, Lower Palace, Sadhashiva Nagar, Bengaluru-5600031. ...PETITIONERS

AND: THE COMMISSIONER, REGISTRAR OF BIRTH AND DEATHS, BBMP, BANGALORE. ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioners named above have filed the above petition seeking direction to The Commissioner Registrar of Birth and Death, BBMP at Bengaluru, to Register the date of death of the Father of the petitioner No.1 and Husband of the Petitioner No.2 by name **Muniswamy, S/o Late. Muniyappa,** as he was died **on 30/05/2015 at Victoria Hospital, Bengaluru.**

Any person interested and having any objection in this matter, may appear before the 41st Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court at Bengaluru, at 11.00 AM **on 21.03.2023** to which date the case is posted for hearing.

Given under my hand and seal the court this 24.2.2023.

The same will be published two News papers i.e. Indian Express

By order of the Court, Sheristedar, XLIth Addl. ACMM Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate of Petitioner : **Anil Kumar .K.T,** Advocate # 695, 1st Main, T. Dasarahalli, Bengaluru - 57. M : 9845657268

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
COMMISSIONER SURVEY SETTLEMENT AND LAND RECORDS

Commissioner Office, K.R.Circle, Bangalore-560001,
Ph: 91-080-22212408, Fax: 91-080-22277528

No. SSLR/PMU/13011/10/2023 Date 24-02-2023

PUBLICATION

Sub: Engagement of Licensed Surveyors

Department of Survey, Settlement and Land Records calls online application to engage Licensed Surveyors in website **https://rdservices.karnataka.gov.in** The last date for submission of application is extended upto **10-03-2023.**

Sd/-
Commissioner,
Survey Settlement and Land Records
Bangalore

DIPR/CP/4943/SHIRDISAI/2022-23

QuoteExpress

OPPORTUNITY DOES NOT KNOCK, IT PRESENTS ITSELF WHEN YOU BEAT DOWN THE DOOR

(KYLE CHANDLER)

Save Rain Water Provide Rain Water Harvesting Structure...

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CITY CORPORATION

Tender Notice No: 560/2022-2023

The tenderers willing to submit tenders for carry out the work of Door to Door collection of solid waste generated in all residential and commercial establishments in entire **65 wards** of Tiruchirappalli City Corporation through the Outsourcing agency with the necessary man powers and Corporation Solid Waste vehicles. (Rent to be paid by the agency), If required additional vehicles to be provided by agency valuing at the cost of **Rs.6289.39 Lakhs** to **Tiruchirappalli City Corporation** to be executed are requested to submit tenders through E-Tendering procedure in **http://tntenders.gov.in** on or before **3.00 p.m of 23.03.2023** and also through sealed hard copy on or before **3.00.p.m. of 24.03.2023,** which will be downloaded and opened at **04.00.p.m** in the same day. If the date of receipt of tender happens to be holiday, then tenders will be received in the succeeding working day at the same time and venue. Other details may be obtained in the Engineering section, Main office during office hours in working days.

Tender Conditions are available in the above said website.

(E5/14553/2023(Main)

DIPR/ 1200 /TENDER/2023

Commissioner,
Tiruchirappalli City Corporation

" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

TAMBARAM CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Roc No.: 201/2023/E1 **Date: 24.02.2023**

Tambaram City Municipal Corporation invites tenders through E-tendering system from eligible tenderers for "Selection of service provider/ agency/ contractor for implementation of Solid Waste Management Activities on contract basis in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation for three years". Tenderers shall submit their tender online through in e-tendering website **https://tntenders.gov.in** up to 03.00 P.M (as per the time in the server clock of the tender portal) on 24/03/2023.The tenders will be opened through online at 3.30 P.M. on the same day.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Approximate value of tender (Rs in Lakh)	E.M.D in Rs.	Contract period
1	2	3	4	5
1	Selection of Service Provider/Agency /Contractor for implementation of Solid Waste Management Activities on contract basis in Tambaram City Municipal Corporation	6224.23 per year	62,24,230	3 (Three years)

1. The tender documents shall be made available from 27/02/2023
2. The tender document may be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** upto 15.00 hours on 24/03/2023.
3. Tenders through e-submission shall only be accepted.
4. Pre-bid meeting will be held on 8/03/2023 at 15.00 hours in the Office of the Tambaram City Municipal Corporation, Muthurangam Street, West Tambaram, Chennai - 600045.

DIPR/1199/TENDER/2023

Commissioner
Tambaram City Municipal Corporation

" சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client proposes to purchase the property more particularly described in the schedule hereunder from present owner Mr. Byregowda, aged about 45 years, son of Late Sri. Muniswamaiah, residing at No. 3, Narayanappa Compound, Next to NN Complex Geddalahalli, Bangalore - 560094. The owner represented that he has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property. Any person/ persons who claims any right, title or interest of any nature or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within Seven (7) days hereof, failing which it will presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owner thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

Schedule Property

All that piece and parcel of Southern portion of the Residential Property bearing No. 107, old Khatha No. 218-A, New Khata No. 3/107, carved in land bearing Sy No's. 29, 30/2, & 37/1 of Geddalahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, presently situated within the BBMP Juridiction Ward No. 19 (Sanjayanagar), and Site is measuring East to West – 65 feet and North to South – 40 Feet, in all measuring about 2600 sq.feet together with residential house measuring about 2200 sq ft of built up area and is bounded on the: **East by** : 30 Feet Road, **West by** : Site No. 108 and 111, **North by** : Remaining Northern Portion of Same Property bearing No. 107, **South by** : 30 feet Road (4th Main Road)

G Rangaswamy, Advocate
No. 435, Balaji Gokula, 12th Main, 4th B Cross, West of Chord Road, Behind Kulkarni's Medzonne, Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bangalore 560 086.
Mob: 98808 12716

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING

INDULGE

Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

NKGSB Bank

NKGSB Co-op. Bank Ltd.

(MULTI STATE SCHEDULED BANK)

Recovery Dept: Bimal Apartment, Ground Floor, H. F. Society Road, Jogeshwari (E), Mumbai – 400060 **Tel No:** (022) 2837 6816, 2834 9616, 2820 3603; **Email id - recovery@nkgsb-bank.com**

Jayanagar Branch: Ground Floor, New No. 15, Old No. 458 & 459, 4TH T Block, 18TH Main, Jayanagar, Bengaluru – 560041; **Tel No:** (080) 2653 0102, 2653 0103; **Email id –** jayanagar96@nkgsb-bank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)] { For Immovable Properties}

WHEREAS, The undersigned, being an Authorized Officer of NKGSB Co-op. Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Enforcement) Act, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT, 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued **Demand Notice on 19/04/2021** to the following Borrower(s) & Mortgagor(s); calling upon them to pay the amount mentioned in the said notice within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the same. The borrower(s) & mortgagor(s) having failed to pay the amount mentioned against their respective names, this notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) & Mortgagor(s) and Public-in-General that an undersigned had taken **PHYSICAL POSSESSION** of the Asset described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on him Under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on **23/02/2023** under Section 14 of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

The borrower(s) & mortgagor(s) in particular and public-in-general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the below mentioned Immovable/movable property and/any dealing with the said Asset, will be subject to the charge of the NKGSB Co-op. Bank Ltd. for the following amount and further interest and charges applicable thereon.

The borrower(s) attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Name of Borrower/ Mortgagor	Total Amount Due
1. Mr. Manjappa S (Borrower & Mortgagor) 2. Mrs. Sudha S (Co-Borrower & Mortgagor)	In Housing loan Outstanding amount is Rs.68,76,994.41 as on 31/01/2023 with further interest along-with incidental expenses applicable thereon and in Mortgage loan outstanding amount is Rs. 1,17,20,796.48 as on 18/02/2023 with further interest along-with incidental expenses applicable thereon. Aggregating total balance of Rs.1,85,97,790.89 and further interest along with incidental expenses there on.

SCHEDULE –I (Immovable Mortgaged Properties)

PROPERTY NO. 01: All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing No. 442, Khaneshumari No. 136, present BBMP Khatha No. 442/443/444/136, Ramagondanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, BANGALORE, measuring East to West: 10' and North to South: 28', with proportionate right in the land under the building and with right to use and avail common areas and facilities and with right of ways and easements and parking made available to the said premises along with share certificate and membership attached to the said premises; Owned by Mr. Manjappa S & Mrs. Sudha S. The above Scheduled Property is bounded by as follows: **EAST:** By House belonging to Manjula, **WEST:** By House belonging to Narasimhappa, **NORTH:** By House belonging to Muniswamappa, **SOUTH:**By Road

PROPERTY NO. 02: All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing No. 443, Khaneshumari No. 136, present BBMP Khatha No. 442/443/444/136, Ramagondanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, BANGALORE, measuring East to West: 10' and North to South: 28', with proportionate right in the land under the building and with right to use and avail common areas and facilities and with right of ways and easements and parking made available to the said premises along with share certificate and membership attached to the said premises; Owned by Mr. Manjappa S & Mrs. Sudha S. The above Scheduled Property is bounded by as follows: **EAST:** By House belonging to Seenappa, **WEST:** By House belonging to Krishnappa, **NORTH:** By House belonging to Muniswamappa, **SOUTH:**By Road

PROPERTY NO. 03: All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing No. 444, Khaneshumari No. 136, present BBMP Khatha No. 442/443/444/136, Ramagondanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, BANGALORE, measuring East to West: 25' and North to South: 28', with proportionate right in the land under the building and with right to use and avail common areas and facilities and with right of ways and easements and parking made available to the said premises along with share certificate and membership attached to the said premises; Owned by Mr. Manjappa S & Mrs. Sudha S. The above Scheduled Property is bounded by as follows: **EAST:** By House belonging to Muniyapp, **WEST:** By House belonging to Manjula, **NORTH:** By House belonging to Muniswamappa, **SOUTH:**By Road

PROPERTY NO. 04: All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing No. 204/2A (in erstwhile Khatha No. 204/2, Varthur, Varthur Hobli), present BBMP Khatha No. 1846/204/2A, Patel Layout/Venkateshappa Layout, Balagere Road, Varthur, BANGALORE, measuring East to West: 40' and North to South: 34.03', in all measuring 1361.20 Sq. Fts., with proportionate right in the land under the building and with right to use and avail common areas and facilities and with right of ways and easements and parking made available to the said premises along with share certificate and membership attached to the said premises; Owned by Mr. Manjappa S & Mrs. Sudha S. The above Scheduled Property is bounded by as follows: **EAST:** By House belonging to Harohalli Narayana Reddy, **WEST:** By Road, **NORTH:** By House belonging to Valepura Narayanappa, **SOUTH:** By House belonging to N. P. Muniraju

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 27.02.2023

SD/-
AUTHORIZED OFFICER
NKGSB Co-op. Bank Ltd.
(Under the SARFAESI Act 2002)

All the news. In just a click.
Log to www.newindianexpress.com
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
/thenewindianxpress
@newindianxpress
+The New Indian Express
Google Play App Store

G20 Government of India Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Prosperous Country, Empowered Farmers
Symbols of self-reliant India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi
transfers

More than Rs. 16,800 crore to more than 8 crore beneficiary farmers under 13th instalment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi

27 February, 2023, 3.30 to 4.30 pm. Venue : Malini Ground, B S Yediyurappa Marg, Belagavi, Karnataka

Till date, more than Rs. 2.25 lakh crore transferred directly into the bank accounts of more than 11 crore farmers

Entire expenditure of the scheme is borne by Government of India

Rs. 6,000 per annum is transferred to the beneficiary farmers in three equal instalments

Comprehensive grievance redressal mechanism and Centralised Helpdesk to resolve the issues of beneficiaries

PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi

Status of applications and benefits of the scheme are available on https://pmkisan.gov.in and the Mobile App

cbc 01101/13/0019/2223

Watch Programme Live on DD News or DD Kisan Channel | AgriGoI | PM-Kisan Helpline No. 155261 | For more information on this Scheme Scan QR code

THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 20 • LATE CITY EDITION

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/thenewindianxpress
twitter.com/newindianxpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress

AT LEAST 59 DIE AS OVERLOADED MIGRANT BOAT SINKS OFF ITALY

A few-months-old baby was among those killed after their boat sank in stormy seas off Italy's Calabria region on Sunday

SHIP WAS CARRYING AT LEAST 150 PEOPLE

The boat carrying at least 150 people broke up after crashing against rocks during stormy weather. As the incident happened about 100 metres from the beach, at least 27 managed to swim to safety while dozens of others were rescued by the Italian coastguard. In all, at least 80 people survived. It was not immediately clear where the boat had set out from | **P13**

SURVIVORS MOVED TO TEMPORARY SHELTER

- Survivors wrapped in blankets and quilts were taken by bus to a temporary shelter. A few were taken to hospital for treatment
- Each year, thousands fleeing poverty and war undertake perilous journeys across Mediterranean to reach shores of Europe. More than 2,000 people died last year trying to cross the sea in crowded boats

14,000

MIGRANTS HAVE ARRIVED IN ITALY BY SEA SINCE THE START OF THIS YEAR

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

G20
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
NAVA KARNATAKA FOR NAVA BHARAT
Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Total allocation of Rs. 25,000 crore for Irrigation Sector
The highest budget allocation for irrigation so far
Rs. 5,000 crore for Upper Krishna Project Stage-III
Mahadayi: Rs. 1,000 crore grant for Kalasa-Banduri Nala Diversion Scheme
Rs. 6,000 crore grant (including Central Assistance) for Upper Bhadra Project
BUDGET 2023-24
karnataka information
Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

EXPRESS READ

SSLC prep exams start from today

Bengaluru: The Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) preparatory examinations are all set to begin on Monday, with the first language paper. The exams will go on till Friday. The first language exam will be followed by the second language, third language, mathematics, science and social science. The examinations are taking place at the school level, with the respective school teachers evaluating the answer sheets and announcing the results | **P6**

17-year-old jumps off B'luru high-rise

Bengaluru: A 17-year-old girl ended her life by jumping from the 11th floor of an apartment block near Basaveshwara Circle in High Grounds police station limits, around 6.45pm on Sunday. Prakruti, a resident of Sanjay Nagar, was a Class 12 student at Sophia School on Palace Road. Prakruti gained entry into the apartment block by telling the security guard that her friend lived there and went to the 11th floor of the building. A preliminary probe revealed that she was depressed and had attempted suicide twice earlier, the police said | **P7**

CBI arrests Delhi Dy CM Sisodia in excise policy case

The AAP leader was grilled for over eight hours; did not give satisfactory answers, says agency

AMIT MUKHERJEE @ New Delhi

THE Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arrested Aam Aadmi Party leader and Delhi's deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia late on Sunday evening after questioning him for over eight hours in connection with the Delhi liquor policy case.

The CBI had summoned Sisodia in connection with its probe into corruption in the excise policy, which was allegedly 'tweaked' to benefit liquor traders, resulting in ₹2,873 crore loss to the city government.

Sisodia was in-charge of the excise department when the policy was formulated and implemented. The policy, brought into effect in November 2021, was allegedly influenced at the formulation stage to benefit certain businessmen, liquor distributors and traders. Following registration of the case, the Delhi government withdrew the policy with effect from July 31, 2022.

The agency said Sisodia was arrested after the investigating officers felt his answers were not satisfactory. "He gave evasive replies and did not co-operate the investigation despite being confronted with evidence to the contrary," it said.

The CBI will produce Sisodia before the special court on Monday, where his custodial remand would be sought.

Delhi Deputy CM Manish Sisodia visits Rajghat ahead of his questioning by the CBI in New Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

Sisodia was asked about the changing of seven mobile phones and destroying 170 SIM-cards and mobile handsets, sources said. However, he could not give a satisfactory answer. The minister was also confronted with two Delhi government officers during interrogation.

Sisodia, who is accused No 1 in the FIR registered by CBI, was originally summoned on February 19. However, he sought one week's time citing official commitments. He was subsequently asked to appear on February 26 "for answering various questions evaded by him during his examination on October 17, 2022 and further questions relating to his incriminating role based on evidence collected during investigation of the case".

Adani and Modi 'one and the same', says Rahul

PREETHA NAIR @ Nava Raipur

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday tore into Prime Minister Narendra Modi and foreign minister S Jaishankar, accusing the former of 'protecting' industrialist Gautam Adani and terming the latter's comment on China 'cowardice'.

Stepping up his campaign against the BJP government on the Adani-Hindenburg row, he said Adani and Modi are 'one and the same', adding that he will keep raising questions till the truth comes out. Gandhi was addressing Congress delegates on the third and concluding day of the party's 85th plenary session in Chhattisgarh's Nava Raipur.

"When we asked in Parliament about the PM's relationship with Adani, the secret behind the exponential rise in Adani's wealth, and how he is

Rahul Gandhi

bagging contracts from foreign countries, the entire speech of mine was expunged. We will ask in Parliament thousands of times till the truth of Adani comes out," he said.

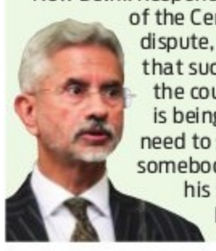
Wondering why all Union ministers came out to defend Adani in Parliament, he said: "When we raised questions against Adani, they said we are attacking the nation. Why are ministers protecting him?"

The Budget session of Parliament had witnessed ruckus after the Opposition parties demanded a Parliamentary or Supreme Court-monitored panel to probe the findings of the Hindenburg report, which accused the Adani group of stock manipulation and fraud.

Comparing the Adani group with East India Company, Rahul said history is repeating. "I want to tell the people who work in Adani's company that your company is looting the country's infrastructure. The freedom struggle was against the East India Company. That company too snatched away India's wealth," he said.

The former Congress chief also targeted External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar for his recent remarks that "China is a bigger economy than India", terming it 'cowardice'. "Was our economy very big when we fought the British? This is cowardice," he said.

EAM slams Rahul's comment on border tussle



New Delhi: Responding to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's criticism of the Centre's handling of the India-China border dispute, Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar stated that such statements wouldn't serve the interests of the country. "At the end of the day, whatever politics is being played at the national level, we, as a country, need to stay as one. The country is not served well by somebody making such comments," he said delivering his 54-minute-long talk on the topic "India's G20 Presidency" on Sunday. **P9**

Start paying toll on B'luru-Mysuru Expressway from tomorrow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

FROM 8 am on Tuesday (February 28), motorists passing through the Bengaluru-Nidaghatta section of the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway (National Highway 275) will have to start paying the toll. The fee for a single journey ranges from Rs 135 to Rs 880, depending on the category of the vehicle.

The decision to start collecting the toll was taken on Sunday after a meeting between the National Highways Authority of India officials and Ramanagara deputy commissioner and superintendent of police.

BT Sridhara, Project Director, told TNIE, "We are starting the toll collection from Tuesday morning. We avoided Monday on the advice of the SP and DC."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to officially inaugurate the expressway on March 11.

Meanwhile, an official release said that the NHAI headquarters has issued orders to start collecting the toll from Kaniminike and Sheshaginihall toll plaza for the six-lane highway. **P9**

SPARKS FLY

Bengaluru sees spike in static shocks

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

SPARKS are flying quite literally in Bengaluru. Residents across the city have been complaining of a sudden spike in static shocks over the last fortnight, while doctors and scientists said this could be because of the prevalent weather.

Chief of Medical Department, Vikram Hospital, Dr K M Manjunath said, "There is no specific explanation for it. Winter has not yet fully gone from the city and the mornings are still cold. Static electric shocks are witnessed during winter. I have experienced it many times in the US during the cold season. It particularly happens if one is wearing polyester clothing."

Another doctor, who requested anonymity, said the weather changing from winter to summer could be the reason for such a high incidence.

IISc scientist Prof JM Chandra Kishan, said static charges get transmitted from one object to another.

"For instance, you suddenly touch a glass rod with wool, it happens. The incidence is high among people who wear woollen clothes. The static charges ultimately dissipate into the ground but get passed around before that," he said.

CONTINUED ON: P9

GERMANY MULLS EASIER VISA FOR INDIAN TECHIES

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said his government wants to make it easier for IT experts from India to obtain visas in Germany | **P6, CE: P1**

2 accused in Moosewala murder case killed in jail

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

TWO gangsters arrested in connection with the murder of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala and lodged in high-security Goindwal Sahib prison in Punjab's Tarn Taran district were killed on Sunday in a jail fight, officials said.

The duo, Mandeep Singh alias Toofan and Manmohan Singh alias Mohna, was rushed to a hospital but could not be saved. While Toofal was declared brought dead, Mohna succumbed to injuries while undergoing treatment. Another inmate Keshav, who is also an accused in the Moosewala murder case, was seriously injured during clashes and is undergoing treatment. Mooswala was shot dead in May.

Sidhu Moosewala

The Punjab Police arrested Toofan and another gangster Manpreet alias Mani Rayya in September in connection with the murder. Both of them were the main shooters of the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria gang, the police said. Mohan was arrested in June.

While Toofan was accused of providing a vehicle to the killers, Mohna allegedly provided shelter to the assassins and did a recce of the popular singer before he was shot dead.

It is not clear what led to the clashes inside the high-security prison. Sources said utensils and iron rods were used during the fight. Punjab's opposition Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) called for an independent probe. It also hit out at the AAP government for the law and order situation in the state. "No one is safe in Jungle Raj of @AAPPunjab. Traders are not safe at shops. Women are not safe at homes. Cops not safe in police stations. The latest killing of 2 gangsters involved in #SidhuMooseWala murder in jail needs independent probe as there could be a deep-rooted conspiracy," SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal tweeted.

Women's cricket wins, Oz lift T20 WC title

GOMESH S @ Cape Town

THE flags were flying high in the stands and on the grass banks of the Newlands Stadium here on Sunday. Over ten thousand, including the two teams — South Africa and Australia — were standing in attention, some with their hands on their chest, others with their arms around their friends and teammates' shoulders as the SA anthem 'Sounds the call to come together, And united we shall stand, Let us live and strive for freedom, In South Africa our land' was sung in unison.

It was emotional and the crowd never stopped thumping and supporting their team until the end with the Table Mountain in the backdrop. The occasion demanded it too. The hosts reached their first World Cup final across all formats.

Australia celebrate after winning their sixth women's T20 WC title on Sunday | AFP

On the ground, the teams did their best not just in the final but across the tournament. There were sumptuous games of cricket, peppered with some great hittings, nice spells of bowling and of course great catches too. Like always, the Australians were garbed in the aura of invicibility. This is their seventh T20 World Cup final (6th title) and the records were titled against the hosts. A miracle eluded them too. Australia's 156 was never too easy, especially against the attack led by ever reliable Ashleigh Gardner (20/1). Aussie opener Beth Mooney showed why she is one of the feared batters with an unbeaten 74. Despite opener Laura Wolvaardt's 61, South Africa managed 137-6.

The winners cup was lifted by Australia, but the real trophy was won by those millions of fans who believed in all the teams in the middle. **P15**

STUFF OF BOX-OFFICE?

Now, film-makers want to cash in on Roopa-Rohini clash

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE sensational tussle between two top women officers of the state that rocked news and social media recently may be the stuff that are movies made of. Film makers and producers are now showing interest in adapting to the screen the very public clash between senior IPS officer **Roopa Moudgil** and senior IAS officer **Rohini Sindhuri**, who have gone at each other's throat.

The Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC) has received two cinema titles - Rohini IAS and R versus R, both revolving around these two officials. The KFCC committee is expected to meet next week and give approval after seeing and hearing the synopses.

Director of '5 Adu 7 Angula' fame Nandalike Nityananda Prabhu has applied for the title

R versus R, while Praveen Shetty of Kannada Rakshana Vedike has chosen Rohini IAS.

KFCC president BaMa Harish told *The New Indian Express* that they will listen to the synopses and if the story is a biopic or pertaining to one person, they will seek a no-objection certificate from the concerned before approving the titles.

He said that whenever such controversies or interesting incidents happen, producers and directors tend to make movies on them. Some will hit the silver screen, while many don't.

This is not the first time that film-makers have shown interest in making a movie on Rohini Sindhuri. Two years ago, Mandya-based Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar Films had initiated the process to make Bharatha Sindhuri based on her works, but the project did not progress much. Before that, a flick -- Shalini IAS -- was also planned on the life of IAS couple Shalini Rajneesh and Rajneesh, but that too did not see the light of day.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
• Monday: 27/02/2023 • Year: Shubhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana
• Ritu: Sishira • Masa: Phalguna • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Ashtami 5.19 am
• Nakshatra: Krithika 8.49 am • Moon in Mithuna Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 14°C | MAX 30°C
FORECAST Sunny

Sunrise 6.36 am
Sunset 6.28 pm
Moonrise 11.50 am
Moonset 12.11 pm

A 25-strong group of residents stages a protest on the gomala land

Residents stop construction by education trust

'Plot falls within Venkateshpura Lake's buffer zone in Arkavathy Layout'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE weekend marked a major standoff near Jakkur between residents of Chokkanahalli village and an educational trust attempting to start the construction work on a plot of land in Arkavathy Layout leased to it by the BDA last year.

The protestors contended that the plot falls within the buffer zone of Venkateshpura Lake and any construction work here would affect the Great Trigonometric Survey (GTS), which dates back to 1850.

The BDA had leased out the parcel of land running to 2.75 acres near Jakkur to Siddeshwara Educational Trust on May 29, 2022 for 30 years. This civic amenity site lies adjacent to the 6.3-acre Venkateshpura Lake. The residents held a similar protest on June 21 and 22 last year too. Residents had stopped the construction work and BDA had promised them that a survey would be conducted of the land in question.

Holding placards and raising slogans, a 25-strong group stopped preliminary works to start the construction both on Saturday and Sunday.

A representative of the residents told TNIE, "This was originally a gomala land (used for cow grazing). We can disprove the government's claim that there are no cows around to use it as we have videos and pics of cows grazing on the plot."

Moreover, the GTS is used to map locations and has a great heritage value, he added. "If the construction goes ahead, the lake will get ruined as it is too close to the water body. We have no plans of allowing the construction to start."

Neither BDA officials nor representatives of the institution could be reached for comments.

SSLC prep exams to kick off today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) preparatory examinations are all set to begin on Monday, and will go on till Friday. Earlier, the examinations were to take place from February 23, but were postponed later.

This will be the first time that the preparatory examinations are taking place under the Karnataka State Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB). Preparations to conduct the examinations have been going on in the last several weeks.

As per instructions on conducting the examinations put up by the KSEAB, block education officers have been tasked to issue the question papers to schools who will print them according to their requirements.

This is also the first year that student were ordered to pay Rs 60 as examination fee. However, following criticism from parents and others, this was later reduced to Rs 50.

The preparatory examinations are taking place at the school level, with the respective school teachers evaluating the answer sheets and announcing the results to students. The examinations will occur at all SSLC syllabus schools under the guidance of the respective Deputy Directors of Public Instruction for each zone in the state.

The first examination on Monday will be for the first language. This will be followed by the second language, third language, mathematics, science and social science.

KSEAB has asked that the printing and distribution of question papers as well as evaluation of the answer papers by teachers should happen in a transparent manner. "SSLC preparatory examinations are similar to the main examinations for both teachers and students. Therefore, it should be taken care to conduct the preparatory examination in a disciplined, peaceful and transparent manner, similar to the main examinations," guidelines released by KSEAB said.

EXPRESS READ

Pourakarmikas to protest at BBMP head office

Bengaluru: Hundreds of pourakarmikas will stage a protest at the BBMP head office on Monday, urging the government to regularise around 16,000 sanitation workers. The pourakarmikas said they were forced to stage the protest as the government has not kept its promise of regularising all sanitation workers. BBMP Pourakarmikara Sangha president Nirmala said out of more than 16,000 pourakarmikas, only 3,673 have been regularised. She recalled that after the four-day strike by pourkarmikas in July last year, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had agreed to their demands. "However, only 3,673 workers have been regularised. The list of the employees regularised has names of people who have recently joined. This has led to a lot of dissatisfaction among workers who all jointly put up a fight to regularise all the workers," said Nirmala. **ENS**

German Chancellor Scholz talks of life goals over a cup of coffee

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru:

EMPLOYEES of Mitti Cafe, housed inside India Coffee House on Dr Ambedkar Veedhi, had a special visitor on Sunday evening -- German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. He had a half-hour interaction with them, while relishing a cup of black coffee, cookies and a slice of tea cake.

This popular coffee chain hires adults with physical and intellectual disabilities across the country. The Chancellor, who was at the cafe from 4.30pm to 5pm, was accompanied by four Bengalureans who will relocate to Germany shortly in connection with work, Wilfred Lancelot, head of Creatives and Coffee Operations at Mitti Cafe, told TNIE.

Eight employees -- four men and four women -- got a chance to interact with Scholz, along with Lancelot and Swati Dokanya, director & COO of the cafe.

"The Chancellor asked employees to share their experiences at work. He also told them that their disability should not stop them from reaching any goal," Lancelot said.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz with employees of Mitti Cafe in Bengaluru on Sunday

Mitti Cafe was selected after a recce of many coffee shops in the city, to assess the best place to host the chancellor, he added. The chain is also the recipient of a UN award in the past.

The Chancellor assured them that discussions with Mitti Cafe would continue. "There is potential for some kind of partnership with our chain and Germany," Lancelot added.

The overflowing manhole on Bellandur Main Road

Manhole overflows on Bellandur rd, no action yet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

BELLANDUR residents have complained that a manhole just opposite the BWSSB office on the Bellandur Main Road has been overflowing over the last three days.

Despite complaints with BWSSB and BBMP, the residents alleged that no action was taken. The resident said that the main road was dug up a year ago for pipework and the authorities have not repaired it.

According to Krishna Madesh, a resident of Bellandur, the main road has been flooded over the last three days since Wednesday.

"After follow-ups with officials, the water dried up on Saturday. The residents faced difficulty as BWSSB's line work and BBMP's drainage work have also begun, which has resulted in dusty roads. Residents are battling with the situation over the last eight months," said Madesh.

Ashok Mrityunjaya, an AAP aspirant from the Mahadevapura Zone Assembly said that agencies do not respond to complaints on civic issues, and residents are forced to go from one agency to another, and finally approach the MLA's personal assistant to get the work done. "This shows that the MLA is deliberately delaying the work. Residents are forced to reach out to him and only then their grievance is addressed," alleged Mrityunjaya.

BWSSB assistant engineer Naveen was unavailable for comment. However, Major Works executive engineer, BBMP, Jayashankar Reddy said that the Palike has started the road work only a month ago, and will complete the 0.7 km work soon. "The roadside drain work is for mitigating flooding."

Cattle and agri farming go hand-in-hand, can make farmers self-sufficient: NGO

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Ayush Arogya Camp, organised by the NGO GoPals on Sunday, aims to encourage farmers to build gaushalas near their agricultural lands. Training and educating farmers will help ensure that all resources are used efficiently making farmers completely self-sufficient, NGO volunteers said.

Keshav Modi, a volunteer, explained that they aim to promote rearing of native cattle breeds beyond just as a milch animal. Cow urine and dung can even be used as manure or processed for making biogas and ayurvedic medicines as well, he added. The use of fertilisers in producing more yield is a misconception which needs to be changed. It is only with the increased use of urea and fertilisers, which has resulted in low yield produce, while doing organic farming, he added.

Farmers and citizens need to be educated that organic farming is crucial for creating a healthy lifestyle and maintaining ecological balance as well, Modi said. Hence, setting up gaushalas near farmer's fields are useful as they will create a symbiotic relationship between the cattle and the agricultural land.

Such camps help in creating awareness in rural areas and educating them towards building such models in their own fields and benefitting from produce from both cattle and agricultural land.

Sudhir V, owner of a gaushala in Budhamanahalli village, Bengaluru, said a gaushala makes a farmer completely independent. Setting up a multi-facilitated land with a fish pond, a gaushala, a farm land, and a biogas plant will make the farmer not only self-sufficient, but an entrepreneur as well. The excess produce can be sold in the markets which will be a source of added income for the farmer, Sudhir said.

Sudhir also said adopting such a set up will also help reduce burden from the government towards providing constant aid to the farmers. Setting up a gaushala is not expensive and any farmer can easily build one in their backyard.

NGO volunteers are collaborating with several corporate companies, farmers and stakeholders to create awareness about creating a chemical free, healthy and sustainable environment.

ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT) BILL WILL PRIVATISE SECTOR: FORUM

Bengaluru : Karnataka Electricity Consumer Association (KERC) has vehemently opposed the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022 and feared that if this bill is passed, it will privatise the power supply sector and convert it into a profit-making one. Addressing the first State Level Conference of Electricity Consumers in Bengaluru on Sunday, K Somashekar, vice-president, All India Electricity Consumers' Association (AIECA) said, "The Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 should be opposed tooth and nail as the consumers are going to be affected, and will end up paying for the greedy private companies." He claimed that even the Bill has been passed in Parliament, works have commenced towards privatising the sector. "Privatisation of power sector will be disastrous. Those countries which have attempted to do it have seen a total failure. Maharashtra and Odisha have suffered the ramifications of privatisation. We demand that the central government withdraw the bill," said Somashekar.
Gnanamurthy V, state leader of Karnataka Electricity Consumers' Association, said, "The way we choose telecom services, a consumer can choose multiple power service providers. The bill, contrary to what it projects, will not improve the quality of the power distribution but will only make way for exploitation of consumers." **ENS**

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

27TH February : My key sign today is Libra, the celestial balance. This symbol is first found in ancient Egypt when it was believed that the hearts of dead people were weighed against a feather. If the heart was lighter, then the soul was righteous, and it passed on to a happy life in the Afterworld.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
It's a wonderfully optimistic day, one to put equal effort into general social contacts and intense, intimate affairs. Some people will believe that all they have to do to make something happen is to think about it! Also, devote more attention to developing your special, creative talents.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
The burning question is whether you should concede defeat over a moral issue. I think not, for your authoritarian approach matches the mood of the times better than anyone else's somewhat flabby principles. Mind you, that doesn't mean that you shouldn't listen to other people's wishes.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You should wait a little longer before signing on the dotted line, especially if money is an issue. Besides, promises made now may have to be amended before long. Something that appears to guarantee your security may in fact have slight disadvantages, so don't take anything at face value.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Your bargaining power couldn't be stronger but, as luck would have it, the opposition is almost insuperable. You had better be as business like as possible and accept that half a loaf is better than none. But, then, you are well-versed in the arts of compromise.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Although in reality you are extremely fortunate, you seem to forget your many blessings. I know you've been carrying the world on your shoulders, but a quiet word here or there could remove one particular burden at a stroke. Just remember that someone, somewhere, loves you.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
To be perfectly blunt, you were born under the sign of the worrier. Today the Moon occupies a part of your horoscope which encourages you to see the worst or look for problems. The result? You're likely to face up to fresh difficulties. The remedy? Lighten up a little!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You may consider it best to distance yourself from profes-sional or worldly affairs for a while and devote all your time and energy to making a go of social contacts, or of interests which concern nobody but you. And when you're refreshed and revived then you'll be able to play your full part in solving other people's problems.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You know better than anyone how difficult it is to distinguish fact from fantasy, yet you now have a chance to face up to the stark truth as never before. It's all a matter of realising that you may have been mistaken all along. Not only that - but a rival might have been right!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Restriction is always followed by expansion. This is a basic law of astrology. So if you feel a little hemmed in today, do your best to be responsible and wait another few days before you let rip. There's no hurry, so prepare your ground with care.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Difficult patterns involving planets like Venus, Jupiter and Mars may be seen as favourable rather than problematic. You may therefore be able to turn the tables on other people, and transform a block on your progress into a guarantee of your material security.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Now that the Sun is your servant rather than your master, you may feel free to make your own future. In some senses your situation reminds me of the prisoner who, on being set free, asked 'what do I do now?' That's a question you'll answer as the coming days and weeks pass.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Very soon everything will come into the open - or almost everything. This doesn't mean that skeletons will be rattling indiscriminately in your emotional cupboards, but that you can choose when and where to make your feelings known. You might even be pleasantly surprised.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle ⬇

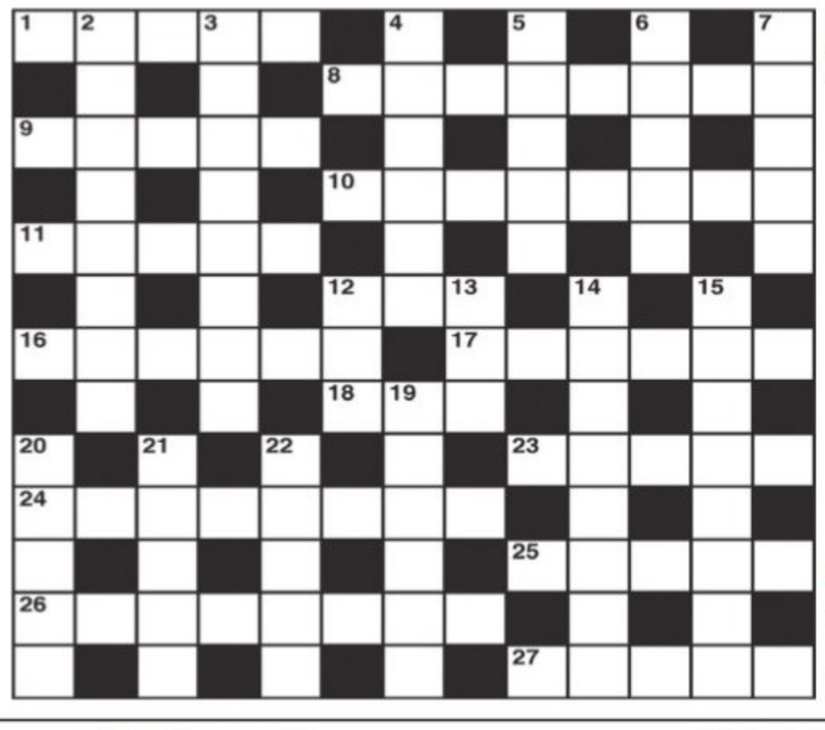
				6		8	5	3
			8		4			
8					9			2
	5		1			9	8	
	9	8			5		1	
3			7					1
			4		8			
6	7	9		3				

8	9	2	4	3	1	6	7	5
1	3	5	6	7	2	9	8	4
7	4	6	9	5	8	3	1	2
3	6	1	5	8	9	2	4	7
4	2	9	7	1	6	5	3	8
5	7	8	3	2	4	1	6	9
9	5	4	1	6	7	8	2	3
6	8	3	2	4	5	7	9	1
2	1	7	8	9	3	4	5	6

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 The latest thing in ties? (5)
8 Frenchman unusually enraged about a policeman (8)
9 Checks the organ controls (5)
10 Torn telephones expressing disapproval (8)
11 Urge preparation for breakfast? (3,2)
12 Vessel with full complement of mates (3)
16 Pat is anxious on starting school (6)
17 Shutter usually closed at night (6)
18 Reserved for the cast (3)
23 Gains information about a sad disposition (5)
24 Composer has part played back for a single man (8)
25 Publicity man starts to lie in inquiry (5)
26 Curtails the brigade's movements (8)
27 One who figures poisonously in the natural world (5)

DOWN
2 Whole triangle is out of kilter (8)
3 Lilied and gave the go-ahead (8)
4 Go off to find another partner (6)
5 Law and order (5)
6 Subject someone to heated questioning? (5)
7 See for example unusual birds (5)
12 A ship is a form of transport (3)
13 Harbour we hear associated with a lock (3)
14 Put off being fed up with having made a mistake (8)
15 Lots are so docile (8)
19 Bent on being married (6)
20 In a position to give a broad smile (5)
21 Twenty is record total (5)
22 Prompt about going on day shift (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Grand total, 6 Naif, 10 Music, 11 Instigate, 12 Dilating, 13 Ethic, 15 Elapses, 17 In touch, 19 Patella, 21 Fiddler, 22 Short, 24 Linesman, 27 Ascertain, 28 Erica, 29 Ears, 30 Sleep tight.

Down: 1 Game, 2 Assailant, 3 Dacha, 4 Origins, 5 Assegai, 7 Awash, 8 French horn, 9 Directed, 14 Sea passage, 16 Solitary, 18 Unloading, 20 All hail, 21 Finance, 23 Oscar, 25 Sweet, 26 Cast.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

CNUEL

DMOME

NYCPOA

HWERDS

Grab whatever they have. We're up on the next tee.
I'm pretty hungry.
What can I get you?
12/30
THE GOLFERS STOPPED TO EAT AFTER THE NINTH HOLE, BUT ONLY HAD TIME FOR A ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

©2022 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

_____ - _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: FAITH WRECK CENSUS FONDUE
Answer: When it came to making good pillows, she — KNEW HER STUFF

The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) will organise an exhibition from February 28 to mark the National Science Day. The theme this year is 'Global Science for Global Wellbeing'

Man murders wife, hides body in barrel, dumps it in forest

Victim suspected fidelity of her husband; house owner tipped off police, 3 in net

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS
@Karwar

IN a gruesome incident, a man in Haliyal in Uttara Kannada district strangled his wife to death, put her body in a barrel and dumped it in a forest after she suspected his fidelity. Haliyal- Dandeli police have arrested the accused, and two others for helping him dispose of the body.

The victim, Shantakumari suspected the accused, Tukaram, who is 10 years younger than her, of infidelity and they frequently argued about this.

During their quarrel, the accused tried to convince her that her suspicions were baseless, but she refused to believe him. An incensed Tukaram began thrashing her, and strangled her. The incident took place in Thergaon village on the Haliyal- Belagavi road.

"The morning after the murder, the accused took the help of two other persons, and put the body in a barrel and took it in a vehicle to Anmod Ghat, and dumped the barrel," Shivanand Katgi, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Dandeli told *The New Indian Express*.The owner of the house Rauf Kalbayi, who heard the screams and quarrel, became suspicious after observing the behaviour of the accused, and informed the police.

> **The morning after the murder, the accused took the help of two other persons, and put the body in a barrel and took it in a vehicle to Anmod Ghat, and dumped the barrel**
>
> Shivanand Katgi, DySP, Dandeli

The police began searching for the vehicle at the checkpost. "We did not have details of the vehicle, but we knew there would be three people in the vehicle. We found one vehicle from Tergaon village, which was empty. While interrogating, the prime accused confessed to the murder, and led us to the place where the body was dumped," said Katgi.

The police also said that this was the victim's second marriage. The two others arrested have been identified as Rizwan, the vehicle's driver, who is a native of Chinchwad in Khanapur taluk in Belagavi district and Sameer Pantoji, a native of Alnavar, and a friend of the prime accused.

The apartment from where the girl allegedly jumped to death | EXPRESS

Teen girl jumps off high-rise, depression to blame

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A 17-year-old girl ended her life by jumping from the 11th floor of an apartment block near Basaveshwara Circle in High Grounds police station limits, on Sunday evening. Depression is said to be the reason for the extreme step.

Prakruti, a resident of Sanjay Nagar, was a Class 12 student at Sophia School on Palace Road. Police said the incident occurred at High Point-3 apartments, around 6.45pm. Prakruti gained entry into the apartment block by telling the security guard that her friend lived there and went to the 11th floor of the building, from where she jumped. She fell on a car parked at the entrance and then on to the ground, and died instantly.

"The identity of the deceased was established with the help of the mobile phone she was carrying, and her parents were informed. A preliminary probe revealed that she was depressed and had attempted suicide twice earlier," police said.

"It is learnt that before entering High Point-3, she tried to enter another apartment block close by, but the guard did not allow her inside. We have taken up a case and are investigating all angles," police added.

High Grounds police registered a case of unnatural death.

Man dies while playing volleyball

ENS@ Udupi

A man playing volleyball collapsed and died in Kukkundoor, Karkala taluk on Saturday. The deceased has been identified as Santhosh (34), a resident of Kukkundoor. Sources said that five years ago, when Santhosh was working in Bengaluru, he had a heart attack and was treated for the same.

Santhosh collapsed on Saturday at 6.20pm while playing volleyball. Though the other players shifted him to the taluk government hospital, he was declared dead at 6.35 pm.

He was playing volleyball at Durga Aided Higher Primary School's ground in Kukkundoor,. Based on a complaint by Santhosh's brother- Harish, Karkala town police have registered a case under section 174 of CrPC. In the complaint, however, Harish said there was no suspicion in the death of his younger brother.

SWACHH MATTERS

A pourakarmika sweeps a road covered with dry leaves in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

CRIME PATROL

Four of a family killed in road accident

Hassan: Four people of a family were killed when their bike rammed into the rear end of a tractor trailer near Karehalli near here on Saturday night. The deceased have been identified as Yogeshachari (35), his wife Lakshmi (27) and daughters Ganavi (11) and Lekhana (7). The family was returning to their native Navile after attending a function. **ENS**

SUV rams bike, kills technician

BENGALURU: A 27-year-old CCTV technician died after a speeding SUV hit his bike near Veerasagara in Yelahanka traffic police limits, on Saturday night. Vikram, a resident of Vidyaranyapuram, sustained grave injuries and was rushed to hospital, where he was declared brought dead, police said. Yelahanka police registered a case and are investigating. **ENS**

23 days after stray dog attack, 3-yr-old Ballari girl loses battle in hosp

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @Ballari

A three-year-old girl, who was critically injured after stray dogs attacked her 23 days ago in Ballari, died at NIMHANS, Bengaluru. She was among 25 people, including seven children, who were attacked by stray dogs in Ballari city on February 3. The deceased, **Tayyaba Kizar**, was initially admitted to Vijayanagara Institute of Medical Science and was later shifted to NIMHANS. She did not respond to treatment and died.

Tayabba's father Kizar Khan said, "If VIMS authorities had shifted my daughter to NIMHANS earlier, she might have survived."

Rudresh SN, Commissioner, Ballari City Municipal Corporation, said, "After the incident, we immediately shifted injured children and adults to VIMS. Three children were serious and were provided treatment in the ICU ward."

He said tenders have been called for animal birth control (ABC) and antirabies vaccine (ARV) programmes in Ballari. Compensation will be given to the family of the deceased, he added.

Prabhakar Reddy, a social activist, said the recent attack by stray dogs exposed the shoddy work of municipal officials in controlling the menace.

Tayyaba is the third child to die in dog bite incidents in Ballari district over the last two months. Two children from Badanahatti village died earlier.

Government of India
Ministry of Education
National Institutional Ranking Framework

NIRF is in process of announcing India Rankings 2023, the eighth edition of this annual exercise. We have received an overwhelming response from Higher Education Institutions.

Data submitted by the institutions in various disciplines like Engineering, Pharmacy, Management, Architecture and Planning, Agriculture and Allied Sectors, Law, Medical, Colleges & Dental including the Overall rankings of the institutions has been hosted by the participating institutions in their respective websites. The list of institutions who have submitted the data in India Rankings 2023 is available on our website www.nirfindia.org.

The comments/feedback of the stakeholders are invited through this advertisement from 27th February 2023 to 5th March 2023 by 5 PM on the data submitted by the institutions. The comments/feedback are auto-transmitted through an email without disclosing the identity of the stakeholder to the institution(s). All the Nodal Officers are requested to regularly check their emails to take necessary action on the comments/feedback received from various stakeholders.

Please note that the responsibility and accountability for the data rests entirely with the participating institutions.

CBC 21315/12/0004/2223 **Member Secretary**

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH:16)
P & SC No. 10/2023

PETITIONER : Smt. VIJAYALAKSHMI .S, W/o Late Shankar. P.J., Aged about 54 years, No.59, Sri Hari Hara Devaki Apparao Layout, Ramamurthy Nagara, Doorvaninagar, Bengaluru-560 016.

RESPONDENTS : 1) M/s HDFC BANK, No. 102, Chawla Regency, Mosque Road, Pulikeshi Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 005. IFSC Code: HDFC0003790.

2) M/s EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND ORGANIZATION, No. 36, Lakshmi Complex, NH-4, Old Madras Road, Opp. Syndicate Bank, K R Puram, Whitefield Main Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 036.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the Petitioner above named has filed the above petition u/s 372 of Indian Succession Act for the grant of Succession Certificate in favor of Petitioner in respect of schedule mentioned below. The below mentioned schedule was held by **Late Shankar. P.J,** the husband of the Petitioner herein who has expired **on 17-04-2021.**

Interested parties are hereby called to appear in this Court either in person or by a pleader duly instructed **on 14/3/2023 at 11:00 AM.** Inform to show cause against the Petitioner failing wherein the appearance will be heard and declared as ex-parte.

SCHEDULE

SB A/c Number	00091050147652
SB A/c Number	50100035435515
Joint SB A/c Number	50100035435481
Pension Payment Order Number	PYKRP00042862

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this day of 10.2.2023.

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Advocate for Service: **D. KAVITHA**
O/at 95, Jagajyothi Layout, 5th Cross, Kenchanapura Cross, Kengeri Ring Road, Bengaluru - 560056.
Email: 91640kavitha@gmail.com

'Form No. URC-2'
Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Act (Pursuant to Section 374(b) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 4(1) of the Companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014)

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application is proposed to be made after fifteen days hereof but before the expiry of thirty days hereinafter to the Registrar at Central Registration Center (CRC) that M/s Century Silicon City, a partnership firm, may be registered under Part I of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act, 2013, as a company limited by shares.
2. The principal objects of the company are as follows:
   a) To purchase and sell any land or immovable properties or any right or interest therein, either singly or jointly or in partnership, with any person(s), or Body Corporate or Partnership Firm;
   b) To develop and construct thereon residential, commercial complex or complex(es), either singly or jointly or in partnership as aforesaid, comprising offices for sale or self-use or for earning rental income thereon by letting out individual units comprised in such building(s);
   c) Development of townships;
   d) Manufacturing of building materials;
   e) Financing of housing development.
3. A copy of the draft memorandum of association and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at No. 10/1, Lakshminarayana Complex, Ground Floor, Palace Road, Bangalore - 560001.
4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Central Registration Centre (CRC), Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA), Plot No. 6, 7, 8, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, District Gurgaon (Haryana), Pin Code -122050, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

Date: 27.02.2023
Place: Bengaluru

For Century Silicon City
Sd/-
(Partners)

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client proposes to purchase the property more particularly described in the schedule hereunder from present owner Mr. Byregowda, aged about 45 years, son of Late Sri. Muniswamaiah, residing at No. 3, Narayanappa Compound, Next to NN Complex Geddalahalli, Bangalore - 560094. The owner represented that he has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property. Any person/ persons who claims any right, title or interest of any nature or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property and/or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claim and/or objections in writing to the undersigned together with supporting documents within Seven (7) days hereof, failing which it will presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and my clients would proceed to complete the transaction with the present owner thereof subject to compliance with other statutory and legal formalities.

Schedule Property

All that piece and parcel of Southern portion of the Residential Property bearing No. 107, old Khatha No. 218-A, New Khata No. 3/107, carved in land bearing Sy No's. 29, 30/2, & 37/1 of Geddalahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, presently situated within the BBMP Juridiction Ward No. 19 (Sanjayanagar), and Site is measuring East to West – 65 feet and North to South – 40 Feet, in all measuring about 2600 sq.feet together with residential house measuring about 2200 sq ft of built up area and is bounded on the: **East by :** 30 Feet Road, **West by :** Site No. 108 and 111, **North by :** 30 Feet Road (5th Main Road), **South by :** Remaining Sorthern Portion of Same Property bearing No. 107

G Rangaswamy, Advocate
No. 435, Balaji Gokula, 12th Main, 4th B Cross, West of Chord Road, Behind Kulkarni's Medzonne, Rajajinagar 1st Block, Bangalore 560 086.
Mob: 98808 12716

QuoteExpress WITHOUT HARD WORK, NOTHING GROWS BUT WEEDS › GORDON B HINCKLEY

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | /thenewindianexpress @newindianexpress +The New Indian Express | Google Play | App Store

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE, AT BANGALORE
P & SC No. 41/2023

PETITIONER: 1. Sri. Nabarun Saha S/o Late Naresh Chandra Saha Aged about 35 years R/a No. A-1, 2nd Block, Koramangala, Kudremukha Colony, Koramangala, Bangalore South -5600340
2. Smt. Nibedita Saha S/o Late Naresh Chandra Saha Aged about 35 years R/a No. A-1, 2nd Block, Koramangala, Kudremukha Colony, Koramangala, Bangalore South -5600340 **-V/S-**
RESPONDENT Nill

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named has made petition to this Court under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act for the grant of Succession Certificate in favour of the Petitioner No.1, in respect of the schedule asset mentioned below. The below mentioned schedule was held by of Late Naresh Chandra Saha and Late Sipra Saha, the Father and Mother of Petitioner No.1 and Petitioner No.2 herein, who expired on 31.07.2020 and 30.05.2018 respectively.

Interested parties hereby called upon to appear before this Court either in person or through a pleader duly instructed on **28.03.2023 at 11.AM** to show cause against the Petitioners failing which the above petition will be heard in your absence by considering the Respondent as NIL.

SCHEDULE

All movable and tangible properties of Late Naresh Chandra Saha and Late Sipra Saha (either individually and/or as nominee and/or as proprietor in proprietorship concern and/or as partner in any partnership firm and/or as Designated partner of any limited liability partnership and/or as director of any Company and/or in the capacity of HUF) which includes but not limited to cash in hand, balance in his all or any accounts, i.e., savings, current and any other accounts whatsoever, whether held in his name or in the name of proprietorship concern (including but not limited to Senior Citizen Saving Scheme in the Postal office Koramangala Account No. 3183781544, deposit amount of Rs.6,00,000/-, Account No. 3352559370, deposit amount of Rs. 11,50,000/- and Account No.3252194046, deposit amount of Rs. 6,00,000/-. And Saving Bank account in the Post office with Account Bearing No.3171585642 amounting to Rs.5,37,654/- Joint account EPF Bank Account in State Bank of India bearing Account No.10509604886, for the total amount of Rs.1,28,100, cumulatively amounting to Rs.30,15,754/- (Thirty Lakh Fifteen Thousand And Seven Hundred Fifty Four Rupees Only) (all monies to be received from various Banks, Financial Institutions, debtors, loans, advances advanced to debtors, all advances and credits with any of the Firms, all shares, both listed and unlisted, all and any movables in the lockers, all and any gold, silver, diamond jewelry, watches) and all and any such other movables together with the rights and liabilities of Late Naresh Chandra Saha and Late Sipra Saha

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 22th day of Feb, 2023.

By Order of the court
Sd/- Assistant Registrar
City Civil court, Bangalore

ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONER:
Lahiri Law Chambers
#1st Floor, 145, 7th main Road, Sheshadhripuram Bangalore-560020 Mob-9620787733

TIRUPPUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tiruppur Corporation invites tender through E-tendering system from eligible tenderers for "the selection of service provider/ agency/ contractor / company for implementation of solid waste management activities in Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation for three years".The Bidder shall submit the tender only in online through e-tendering website **https://tntenders.gov.in** up to **03.00 P.M** (as per the time in the server clock of the tender portal) on **24.03.2023.**The tenders will be opened through online at **3.30 P.M.** on the same day.

Sl.No.	Name of Work	Approximate value of tender (Rs. in Lakh)	E.M.D. in Rs.	Contract period
1	2	3	4	5
1	**Selection of Service Provider/ Agency/Contractor/ Company for Implementation of Solid Waste Management activities in Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation**	**9625.19 per year**	**Rs. 96,25,190/-**	**3 (Three years)**

1. The Service Provider/ Agency/Contractor/ Company should necessarily satisfy the Qualification criteria specified in the Tender document to qualify for award of the contract.
2. The tender documents shall be made available from **27.02.2023.** The tender document can be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost. The intending tenderer shall log in, into the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** and download tender documents upto **15.00** hours on **24.03.2023** by using their digital signature certificate. Tenders through e-submission shall only be accepted. However, the tenderers shall be solely responsible to check the websites for any Addendum / Corrigendum/ clarification issued by the undersigned subsequently related to the tender. The eligibility criteria and other terms and conditions shall be followed strictly as per the tender documents.
3. Earnest money deposit (EMD) should be submitted online through payment gateway provided in the e-tendering website. In case of any problem in making payment through online, the EMD in scanned form along with technical bid and the original should be sent to the Commissioner prior to the time of opening of technical bid. Demand draft should be drawn in any Nationalized or scheduled bank in the name of the **Commissioner, Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation** payable at **Tiruppur.**
4. A two cover system shall be followed in which first cover contains **'Technical Bid'** and the second cover will consist of **'Price Bid'** only.
5. A pre-bid meeting for the above tender will be held on **08.03.2023** at **12.00** hours in the Office of the Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation at the address mentioned below.

Any clarifications regarding e-tendering the tenderers can contact the following address.

The Commissioner, Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation, Mangalam Road, Tiruppur – 641604

Telephone : 0421-2240153, 2242101. E-mail : commr.tiruppur@tn.gov.in

DIPR/ 1197 /TENDER/2023

Commissioner,
Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation

"சேதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Under Taking)
Office of theExecutive Engineer, KBJNL.NRBC.Divn.No.4,
Chikkahonnakuni,Tq: Devadurga. Dist:Raichur-584 111. KARNATAKA.

No. KBJNL/NRBC/D-4/PB/Tender/2022-23/960 DATE:20/02/2022

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(ONLY THROUGH ELECTRONIC TENDER SYSTEM)
(TWO COVER SYSTEM)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer KBJNL, NRBC Division No. 4, Chikkahonnakuni, invites the percentage tenders in two cover system from the eligible Category I and above enrolled in KBJNL Selected list for work mentioned in the table below. The tenderers are required to submit two separate covers, one containing details of EMD and the particulars under instructions to the tenderers vide clause 1.1 and the other containing financial details of tender as per clauses 1.20

(The blank tender documents can be obtained through the web site www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and to be submitted through electronic tender box.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE DETAILS OF THE WORKS PUT TO E-TENDER

Indent No.	Name of work	Estimated cost put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	GST 18% (Rs. in Lakhs	Total Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)	Transaction Fee (In Rs).	Stipulated period of completion including monsoon	Class of Contractor
21873	Construction of Cross Regulator / Escape including escape channel between Ch.112.00 to 113.50 km of NRBC Extension	749.23	134.86	884.10	13.26	Transaction fee as fixed by e-portal	09 months (including monsoon)	KPWD Class-I and above

3.1.2) The contractors can request for e-tendering documents from 23.02.2023 to 03.03.2023 (10.00 AM) in the web site http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in/e-portal/index Seam link e-tender document on payment (non refundable) as fixed by e-portal towards transaction fee. While applying the contractor can pay the transaction fee in the e-procurement portal using payment modes -1 credit cards / National electronic fund transfer (NEFT) / over the counter (OTC) on or before 03.03.2023 up to (5.00PM) during office hours. 3.1.3) The contractor can have access to e-tender document from 23.02.2023 to 03.03.2023 from 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM 3.1.4) A pre-bid meeting will be conducted on 27.02.2023 at 11.00 AM at the office of the Chief Engineer, Canal zone -1 Bheemarayangudi. 3.1.5) Submission of completed e-tendering documents from 23.02.2023 to 03.03.2023 up to 5.00 PM. 3.1.6) Cover - I (Technical bid) and Cover - II (Financial bid) will be opened electronically in the office of the EE, KBJNL,NRBC, Division No.4 Chikkahonnakuni on 06.03.2023 at 11.00 AM and 08.03.2023 at 11.00 AM respectively. 3.1.7) Further information about electronic tendering can be had from http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in/e-portal/index or in the o/o the undersigned during office hours on working days. For any clarification regarding the tenders please Contact http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in or office of the undersigned during office hours on working days.

DIP/Raichur/665/K.S.M.C&A/2022-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, NRBC, Division No.4,
CHIKKAHONNAKUNI-584111

Your Guide to Spicy Living | INDULGE | Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

With the threat of mining looming large over Kappatagudda, Nandiveri Mutt's Shivakumar seer has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to save the hillock. The seer in the letter requested the PM to protect the flora and fauna in the eco-sensitive zone of Kappatagudda from mining

MODI'S VISIT TO MADDUR AN OUTREACH TO VOKKALIGAS

With no strong face from community, BJP banks on PM to raise the campaign pitch

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

WITH Prime Minister Narendra Modi set to arrive in Maddur to inaugurate the Mysuru-Bengaluru 10-lane highway, the Bharatiya Janata Party is set to turn the occasion into an opportunity to lift its political fortunes in the Vokkaliga heartland.

The Karnataka BJP, which wants to make it a mega event, has also thought of a mega rally at Maddur — considered be the centre-point to Ramanagara, Mysuru and parts of Hassan district — that will help raise the campaign pitch to the next level, after it was set rolling by National President JP Nadda and master strategist Amit Shah in Mandya.

Shah also set the tone by escalating his attack on the JDS and dynasty politics, and set the agenda to win at least four of seven seats in Mandya. He also said the BJP will not have any truck or understanding with the JDS, sending out a strong message.

Though Congress president DK Shiva Kumar and JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy are competing for control over Vokkaliga voters, and appealing to the community to give the highest number of MLAs from the 74 seats in Old Mysuru region.

The BJP high command, knowing full well that the state BJP unit lacks charismatic Vokkaliga leaders, plans to lead with PM Modi's image and aura to wow the electorate, and hopes to cross party lines. The party will also play the development card, and will list the 10-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway, commissioning of MySugar factory, funds for irrigation projects in the Cauvery basin, setting up of Mandya University, installing the 106-ft Kempe Gowda statue at KIA, and announcing development projects for Ramanagara district that is represented by both Shivakumar and Kumaraswamy.

Party sources confirmed it will step up its attack on dynasty politics in the JDS, and internal bickering over the chief minister's post in the Congress.

The BJP is in no mood to play ball with the JDS, as BJP National General Secretary B L Santhosh has told party workers that the BJP will fight the electoral battle under the leadership of Narendra Modi in the 2023 assembly and 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

He attacked the JDS, saying the list of candidates is prepared by the family, and warned leaders and workers of bonhomie with the JDS. He wanted Old Mysuru to elect more BJP MLAs, though it is considered a stronghold of the JDS and Congress.

Incidentally, the BJP high command also took note of the revolt in the Mandya unit, against the appointment of Revenue Minister R Ashoka as Mandya district in-charge, after a few leaders were accused of "adjustment politics" with the JDS.

The BJP, which is keen to spread saffron in Old Mysuru, may reach out to Member of Parliament Sumalatha Ambareesh and her band of supporters to get the magic number of 113 seats. Her entry into the party could be the springboard to take on political rivals.

Spread across 775 acres, the greenfield airport in Shivamogga has been constructed at a cost of Rs 449 crore | SHIMOGA NANDAN

Shivamogga on aviation map as PM to inaugurate airport today

MARX TEJASWI @ Shivamogga

SHIVAMOGGA, the Gateway of Malnad, is all set to find a place on the aviation map as Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the newly constructed airport at Sogane, 15 km from the city, on Monday. Close to 2 lakh people are expected to take part in the inaugural ceremony scheduled to be held at noon.

Modi will also lay the foundation stones for Shivamogga-Shikaripura railway line, coaching depot, seven highway works, 1,204 Jal Jivan Mission works and eight multi-village drinking water projects, together to be taken up at an estimated cost of Rs 3,337.40 crore.

Apart from the airport, the PM will also inaugurate 44 Smart City works, railway bridges, 908 Jal Jivan Mission works, four multi-village drinking water projects and other works completed at a cost of Rs 1,789.94 crore.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, former CM B S Yediyurappa, MP BY Raghavendra among others will be present.

> I am happy that PM Modi is inaugurating the airport on the occasion of my birthday. This will be an unforgettable moment of my life
>
> BS Yediyurappa, former CM

Spread across 775 acres, the greenfield airport has been constructed at a cost of Rs 449.22 crore and is the first airport being maintained by the Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation. It is not handed over to the Airports Authority of India (AAI). The airport will cater to the central and Malnad parts of Karnataka and is expected to develop the region in terms of attracting investments and developing tourism.

Shivamogga airport has the second longest runway in Karnataka, after Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport. The 3.2 km long runway has the facility for night landing. The passenger terminal is spread across 4,320 sq ft.

Even though the effort to build the airport was made in 2007 with the government approving the project, the same could not become successful for over a decade owing to several bottlenecks. The government had acquired 169.32 acres of private land while 609.3 acres was government land. The project was cancelled as the contractor failed to execute the project. In August 2015, the government decided to build a small airport under the public-private partnership (PPP) model. Later, it approved to construct a no-frills (low fares) airport on November 19, 2018. The KSIIDC took up the work on November 26, 2019, under the EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) model. PWD invited tenders to build the airport.

On December 14, 2019, the government decided to extend the runway up to 2,050m to facilitate the landing of ATR-72 aircraft and later approved extending the runway to 3km. The airport was inspected by the Ministry of Aviation and AAI. The Director General of Civil Aviation recently issued a licence to run the airport.

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Who will run your homes, Shah asks JDS

As is his wont, Union Home Minister Amit Shah takes a sideswipe at the JDS whenever he visits poll-bound Karnataka. In Mandya, he had alleged that if the JDS forms an alliance with any party and comes to power, the family gets an ATM. Last week, during a seminar on PM Modi's nine years in power in Bengaluru's Town Hall, Shah said there is no scope for family politics in the BJP, and drew parallels to the JDS, like Samajwadi Party in Uttar Pradesh, RJD in Bihar and DMK in the south. "In the JDS, almost all family members get involved in electoral politics. I am surprised as to who runs their families," he said. He was indirectly referring to former minister H D Revanna's wife Bhavani, who is raring to contest from Hassan, and could give BJP's lone MLA Preetham Gowda some sleepless nights. In the process, Shah exposed his own patriarchal, illiberal opinion about the role of women. Not surprising, considering his party's penchant for the traditional.

80 yrs young: Celebrations begin for BSY

It's a big day for a big leader. Ideally, former CM B S Yediyurappa would have begun his birthday celebrations at Sunday midnight, but the BJP leader is known to be for 'early to bed, early to rise' lifestyle. So his supporters just gathered and celebrated his birthday on Sunday evening. Union minister Pralhad Joshi, Karnataka Home Minister Araga Jnanendra, Shivamogga MP BY Raghavendra and others loudly sang the mandatory birthday song, as Yediyurappa cut the cake weighing 80kg. But there were no candles. His considerate well-wishers did not want to burden him with the mammoth task of having to blow out 80 candles.

POLITICAL THEATRE

₹15K/year to ryots if KRPP comes to power: Reddy

TUMAKURU: Former BJP minister Gali Janardhana Reddy, who had recently launched his own political outfit, has said that if his party comes to power in Karnataka, it will give a financial aid of Rs 15,000 annually to every landholding farmers' family in the state. Reddy had recently launched Kalyana Rajya Pragati Paksha (KRPP) and has decided to contest the Assembly elections. At a rally in Pavagada on Saturday, Reddy also promised setting up of 'Raitha Bharavase Kendras' to distribute seeds and fertilisers to farmers. Reddy also promised Rs 2,500 each month as dole to the unemployed youth. "If I fail to keep up my words, I will retire from politics," Reddy said. He also said that KRPP will field candidates in 40 Assembly seats. On the occasion, JDS leader Nagendra Kumar Neralakunte joined KRPP. **ENS**

BJP DETERMINED TO CORNER SIDDU OVER ARKAVATHY SCAM

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

AT a time when Congress is using the 40 per cent commission allegation to target the BJP government, the saffron party is determined to attack the Grand Old Party and former chief minister Siddaramaiah over the Arkavathy Layout denotification scam.

On Sunday, CM Basavaraj Bommai reiterated that a decision will be taken at the next cabinet meeting on the next course of action to take the issue to its logical end. BJP state president Nalin Kumar Kateel on Saturday had alleged that "Siddaramaiah will go to jail" for his alleged role in the scam. Even as Siddaramaiah challenged the government to place the Justice HS Kempanna Commission report on the 'redo' case on the floor of the House, it did not do so.

The alleged land scam haunted Siddaramaiah in 2014 when he was chief minister and it continues to do so. The commission set up then had conducted an inquiry into the lands denotified after the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) notified them between 2004 and 2014 to carve out Arkavathy Layout. Placing the report on the floor of the House may have spelled doom for all the three big parties — BJP, Congress and JDS — as the denotification process was done during the tenure of all the three parties between 2004 and 2014, sources said.

Bommai has been claiming that Siddaramaiah had done it illegally by executing the 'redo' for which the latter clarified that the word 'redo' was used by the High Court and he had signed the files following its directive. With the legislature session coming to an end and with no option to place the report in the House, the alleged scam is likely to be an election issue for both BJP and Congress.

MLA arranges Umrah for ASHA workers, distributes Saudi Riyal

BENGALURU: Chamarajpet Congress MLA BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan on Saturday arranged Umrah (an Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca) for 16 Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) workers at Jagjivan Ram Nagar ward office and distributed Saudi Riyal 500 (Rs 11,097) to each of them. Taking to Twitter, the MLA said that a pilgrimage send-off programme was organised in his constituency during which he distributed the money and also other Umrah essentials to the workers. Later, he also visited Sira town in Tumakuru district and distributed Saudi Riyal 500 and other essential items to 26 pilgrims. Meanwhile, the BJP hit out at the MLA saying he was indulging in such activities only to attract voters ahead of the Assembly elections. They have also demanded that the police file a suo motu case immediately and take necessary action.
K Somashekhar, state president, ASHA Workers Association, said that he was not aware of the programme organised by the Congress leader. The MLA was not available for a comment. **ENS**

Kumaraswamy calls off crucial party meeting in B'luru, Bhavani upset

BR UDAYA KUMAR @Hassan

THERE seems to be no end in sight for the Hassan ticket row in the Janata Dal-Secular. The apparent rift in the JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda family has caught the eyes of all in the state.

Gowda's eldest daughter-in-law Bhavani Revanna is confident of bagging the B form for the Hassan segment despite making several out-of-turn remarks against brother-in-law HD Kumaraswamy.

She was upset after Kumaraswamy called off the meeting of local leaders to take a final decision on the Hassan conundrum which was scheduled in Bengaluru on Sunday.

Now, she has decided to be more vociferous on the issue until it is resolved, the exact opposite of what Gowda had advised his elder son HD Revanna's family.

She, however, has continued to attend private functions along with her husband Revanna in the Hassan Assembly constituency, making a strong pitch for her candidacy.

The whole issue has become a headache for Kumaraswamy as it exposes the rift in the family and also gives other parties a chance to mock JDS calling it a "family party".

On condition of anonymity, a youth leader said the party will lose a few seats if they go ahead with Bhavani's candidature in Hassan as it will impact the morale of loyal workers.

Sources said Kumaraswamy is also miffed with his elder sibling Revanna for putting pressure on the party for a ticket to his wife despite knowing how the rival parties would milk the situation.

The former chief minister has postponed the Hassan ticket issue for a week to avoid humiliation and maintained that Deve Gowda is unwell and will not be able to take any decision. Revanna and his wife Bhavani were not available for comment.

GROUNDBREAKING

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai initiates development works at Terdal in Bagalkot district on Sunday | KPN

BJP, Congress spar over credit for greening Kolar, Bengaluru Rural

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

WHILE it is true that large areas of Kolar and Chintamani that used to be dry are unusually green this year, Bharatiya Janata Party and Congress are both claiming to be originators of the project.

What raised the hackles of the opposition Congress is the tweet from Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman, an RS member from Karnataka, that "the groundwater levels have significantly increased. These efforts have created livelihood opportunities for nearly 2 million farmers & youth by reviving the rural economy. This effort is now being attempted in different ways by many other states of India."

She said, "In the 2nd stage Lifting/Pumping secondary treated water from the available source to various ridge points to fill additional 257 Tanks in the Kolar & Chintamani Taluks of the Kolar district under the ongoing K&C Valley Project."

Public Accounts Committee Chairman and Congress MLA Krishna Byre Gowda sharply reacted, saying, "No end to double games of BJP. Finance Minister is showcasing to the world Karnataka's large scale waste treatment and reuse to fill lakes, as a great Indian achievement."

He said, "Some local BJP members and supporters who had vociferously objected to the project then have illegally laid out pipes from the tanks to their farms which is obviously illegal."

MLA Yathindra Siddaramaiah said, "BJP is taking false credit for works that the Congress government put in place."

Krishna Byre Gowda has been listing tanks from Bengaluru to Kolar and Chintamani passing through Devanahalli and Hoskote that have been filled, leading to the greening of surrounding areas.

He said the visionary project was taken up during the then Siddaramaiah government where waste water from the Koramangala-Challaghatta Valley (KC Valley) was treated and pumped to fill water bodies in these extremely arid areas.

The KC Valley lift-irrigation project is being implemented by the State Government with technical assistance from the IISc to improve groundwater levels.

Govt yet to act on Guv's directive to probe scam in KSOU

ENS @Belagavi

THE government is yet to initiate any action into the alleged misappropriation of funds at the Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) between 2009-10 and 2015-16, despite the governor's office directing the state government in April 2022 to hand over the probe to the CBI for a detailed investigation.

The governor's office, in a letter to the additional chief secretary of the higher education department, had stated, "The Governor desired to entrust the KSOU case pertaining to the misappropriation of funds to the CBI for a detailed probe."

In February 2020, KSOU Registrar Prof R Rajanna had written to the governor pointing to the misuse of Rs 250 crore collected allegedly from 205 collaborative institutions of the university from across the country. Fund misappropriation was found in the receipts of the admission, examination, study centre and marks card sections of the university, the Registrar's letter stated.

During the board meeting of the apex body of KSOU in February 2022, it was unanimously decided to recommend the matter for investigation by a central agency, like the CBI, after going through the interim report of the chartered accountant and statutory audit reports from 2009-10 to 2015-16. The meeting suggested that the investigation may be conducted by a central agency as collaborative institutes are spread across India.

After the board's decision, the registrar wrote to the governor on February 15, 2022 for the latter's intervention. Realising the seriousness of the case, the governor's office wrote to the additional chief secretary on April 7, 2022 and directed the state government to conduct a detailed investigation. But the government is yet to act even 10 months after the governor's office letter.

Prof Vidyashankar, a former vice-chancellor of KSOU and current VC of Visvesvaraya Technological University, shared the official documents of KSOU and said he had exposed the misappropriation of funds at KSOU during his tenure as VC there.

A 24-year-old youth allegedly set himself, his mother and grandmother on fire, in TN's Meleri on Saturday. The mother Yasodha (45) is undergoing treatment, police said. Around midnight, P Ashok Kumar, the youth poured kerosene over himself and the others, and set the trio on fire

AMIT S UPADHYE & BOSKY KHANNA

Drones to choppers, demand grows to modernise equipment to fight forest fires in Karnataka, but experts pitch for better training for ground staff to ensure prevention...

FOREST FIRES IN KARNATAKA

- Annually, pristine forest patches in Karnataka are set on fire by miscreants, causing immense damage to flora and fauna; due to this, regeneration takes a longer time
- Forest dept must appoint additional guards and manpower, and firelines must be created before the onset of summer
- An extended monsoon in the past few years resulted in fewer forest fires
- Some forest patches in the state are not suitable for fighting fire using choppers
- Experts suggest extra manpower and best available firefighting tools

DRAWING LINES, FIGHTING FIRES

WITH forest fires on the rise in some pockets of Karnataka, forest department officials working on the ground state that there are major problems.

"No matter how much training is imparted, only when strength on the ground is good can the flames be doused. We cannot expect a team of five people to control a fire on 20 hectares of land. The people deployed are locals, so if one is hired and the other is left out, there is unhappiness which could end in them setting fire to forests. This happens everywhere," said a forest official.

Creation of awareness among farmers, locals and tribals notwithstanding, it is very difficult to change their belief. Even now, they believe that ash is the best manure for fresh blades of grass to grow, which is the best for cattle. For this, forests are set on fire. Though such cases have come down, they are still reported on forest fringes of Bandipur, Nagarahole, Kali and Bhadra tiger reserves.

"Practically, we cannot guard every block and patch of forests. Locals, tribals and forest dwellers keep a watch on our movement. They see our pattern of work. If their demands are not met, they set fire to forests. In such situations, it is only our timing and speed in reaching the spot and controlling the fire, which helps protect forests. Deploying additional staff means one guard is deployed for every square km, based on the existing staff strength. Additional manpower is deployed on temporary basis, which has to be kept happy at all times, or the consequences are severe," admitted an official.

Karnataka Principal Chief Conservator of Forests RK Singh says firelines have been drawn in sensitive areas. "Cases of forest fire are on the rise. The maximum fires are reported in Hassan, Chikkamagaluru and Bandipur. To control the fires, we have deployed additional watchers on the ground. We also have Indian Air Force helicopters ready, besides the Fire and Emergency Services as backup in case of large fires. An allocation of Rs 50 crore has also been made for forest fire management for the state this year," he said.

BIG PICTURE

TECH TO FIGHT FIRES

The recent fire accident in Hassan district, which claimed the life of Sundaresh, a dedicated forest staffer, has angered one and all. The demand for modernisation, like using helicopters, is growing. There has been unrest among wildlife enthusiasts, especially as Sundaresh died while dousing the flames.

The department has now started making use of technology. There have been many hoax alerts on forest fires by agencies like US National Aeronautical & Space Administration (NASA), which monitors ground fires globally through thermal imaging satellites. To avoid such technical issues and know the actual situation on the ground, the forest department will soon deploy two drones mounted with thermal cameras.

The drones will be monitored by Karnataka State Remote Sensing Applications Centre (KSRSAC) and the forest department. KSRSAC also shares real-time data with the forest department on forest fires.

Officials told *The New Indian Express* that earlier, ground staff in the prime tiger reserves were getting repeated alerts on forest fires, based on NASA images. But when checked, these were locations where department staffers were creating fire lines.

"The use of drones will help in early and accurate detection of such cases. Drones will also have smoulder and night detection cameras to keep a check on human and animal presence. But since using drones is a costly affair, initially two are being procured on pilot basis -- one for areas near Bengaluru and the other for a distant location. Based on the success, more will be purchased," a forest official told TNIE.

This year, foresters don't want to take any chances as cases of forest fires are increasing. In the past two years, there was little human intervention due to the pandemic. There were also good monsoon spells over the past two years, creating sufficient fodder in forests.

IMPORTANCE OF TRAINED STAFFERS

While the department is relying on technology, experts say this is not enough, and that the best way to combat fires is to have well-trained staffers on the ground. "There is a need to have the right set of trained local people at the right place, and not post them in new terrains," says an expert, requesting anonymity.

The 2017 forest fire in Bandipur Tiger Reserve is still fresh in people's minds. To avert such tragedies, and the recent Sakleshpur fire where one staffer died and three were admitted to hospital, it is important that trained seniors are on the field, leading from the front. It is unfortunate that even at such a time, many officials are seeking transfers, the expert pointed out. "Retaining trained and dedicated staff on the ground is crucial. Department heads should combat the situation from the front. Domain expertise, practical training and leadership plays a crucial role in controlling forest fires and avoiding deaths. Unfortunately, there is a dearth of trained staff. There is a serious need to review the situation," admitted a retired forest official.

The tragic incident where a forest guard died and a DRFO suffered serious burns must be thoroughly investigated by police after registering an FIR, since such forest fires are mostly cases of arson caused by local criminal elements or encroachers. Three key strategies – Prevention, Preparedness and Perpetual vigilance – will substantially reduce risk to both personnel and forests.
Praveen Bhargav, Trustee, Wildlife First

Satellite images and drones can be used to study the situation, but prevention is the best technology. This needs boots on the ground, but that's lacking at the moment, added experts. A retired forest official said many dedicated forest officers in Karnataka have ensured there are no forest fires in their territory. This is because of thorough ground staff management. But sadly, such stern training and meticulous work is not seen in many places.

A close analysis shows that even this year, the maximum cases of forest fires have been ground fires, which are man-made. As per department records, only one arrest has been made so far for a fire in Bandipur Tiger Reserve, reported on February 16. Officials admit they were unable to catch the accused who set off the fire in Sakleshpur.

PREP ON IN KARNATAKA (PROTECTED AREAS)

	BANDIPUR TIGER RESERVE	NAGARAHOLE TIGER RESERVE	BHADRA TIGER RESERVE	KALI TIGER RESERVE
FIRELINES	2,781 KM	2,539 KM	1,400KM	1,500KM
FOREST FIRES	2 ON 2.5 HA & 1 ACRE	NONE	NONE	10 CASES ACROSS 10-15 ACRES

WHAT ARE FIRELINES?

Forest fires can spread only if there is continuous vegetation along its path. Firelines break that continuity. For this, foresters intentionally set fire to patches of forests to ensure there is a break and the fire stops at these lines.

Rates lesser for local commercial vehicles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

THE toll for car/jeep/van is Rs 135 for single journey and Rs 205 for return journey within a single day and Rs 4,525 for monthly pass which covers 50 single journeys in a month. For LCV/LGV/mini-bus, it is Rs 220, Rs 330 and Rs 7,315; Truck/Bus (2 axle) Rs 460, Rs 690 and Rs 15,325; 3-axle commercial vehicle: Rs 500, Rs 750 and Rs 16,715; Heavy construction machinery/earth moving equipment (4-6 axle) Rs 720, Rs 1,080 an Rs 24,030 and Oversized vehicle (7 or more axles) Rs 880, Rs 1,315 and Rs 29,255.

For local commercial vehicles registered within the district where the plaza is located, the rates are lesser and costs Rs 70 for car, jeep and van; Rs 110 for mini-bus and LCV or LGV and Rs 230 for truck or bus. It costs Rs 250 for 3-axle, Rs 360 for heavy construction and Rs 440 for seven or more axles, the release added. For complaints, the public can call 1033.

Much at stake for Dravidian majors in Erode East bypoll today

Police officials on Sunday load EVMs into a truck ahead of the Erode East constituency bypoll | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Erode

AFTER a month of drama and high-decibel campaigning, Erode East goes to the polls on Monday. While there are 77 candidates in the fray, the contest is expected to be between the deceased MLA's father EVKS Elangovan (74) of the Congress, fielded by the DMK-led Secular Progressive alliance, and AIADMK's KS Thennarasu (70), a two-time MLA. Both Dravidian majors have treated the election as a referendum on the DMK's government, although the AIADMK's campaign was initially stymied by the leadership tussle between Edappadi K Palaniswami and O Panneerselvam.

District election officer H Krishnan Unni said all arrangements are in place for smooth conduct of polls.

"Of total polling booths, 32 have been identified as sensitive. CRPF personnel will be deployed at every polling booth with more than 1,200 voters. Counting of votes will be on March 2," Unni said.

The DMK has spared no effort in campaigning in the constituency after offering the seat to the Congress again and convincing Elangovan to contest. Meanwhile, there was high drama in the AIADMK camp from the day one. BJP state unit named an election panel, giving rise to speculation that its chief K Annamalai would enter the fray.

TURTLES' TURN

A woman clicks pictures of Olive Ridley turtles at Rushikulya Beach in Ganjam district in Odisha. Over 1.8 lakh Olive Ridleys have already been spotted laying eggs in the nesting season | DEBADATTA MALLICK

EXPRESS READ

Panchamasalis threaten half-naked protest

BENGALURU: Panchamasali leaders have threatened to hold a half-naked protest at Freedom Park at noon on Monday, over their demand for reservation. Community leaders from Hungund, Ilkal and Bagalkot said they will protest against CM Basavaraj Bommai because he promised reservation and even invoked the name of his mother, but later went back on his word. They said they will take off their shirts to draw government's attention, which did not respond to their protest earlier. ENS

Jaishankar: Can't afford repeat of Sino-India war

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

IN an indirect response to Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's criticism of the way the Central government was handling the Sino-Indian border dispute, Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar stated that such statements wouldn't serve the interests of the country, which he felt, deserved better than that. Instead of making such comments, which affect the morale of the armed forces serving in precipitous border areas, he advised those commenting against India's response to China to focus on improving the infrastructure in those areas, providing the armed forces modernised weapons and clothing.

Delivering his 54-minute-long talk on "India's G20 Presidency" before a packed audience at the Marriott Convention Centre on Sunday, Jaishankar made it clear that he didn't want to see a repeat of the Sino-Indian war of 1962. "At the end of the day, whatever politics is being played at the national level, we, as a country, need to stay as one. The country is not served well by somebody making such comments," he said.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar delivers a talk in Hyderabad on Sunday | RVK RAO

He also reminded that the country was grappling with the pandemic when the Chinese aggression began, and despite the going got tough, PM Narendra Modi had deployed a well trained, equipped and prepared army along the India-China border to take the challenge head on.

"The entire world has taken a note of it. Since then, our diplomacy has backed our deployment, and we have made it clear that resolutions are paramount in resolving escalating situations," he said.

The minister said that India's G20 presidency was all about getting India world-ready and vice-versa, and a unique opportunity for the country to influence the exceptionally influential world delegates who will take back with them the feel of real India. The delegated are going to experience with the totality of the country while they're in India to attend around 200 meetings, which will be held in 56 cities across the country, he added.

"There are major issues like the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on global economy, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, climate change, terrorism, vulnerabilities created by technologies, trade standards maritime issues and so on. Today's India can't sit on the sidelines," he added.

CHENNAI CENTRAL IS INDIA'S FIRST 'SILENT' STATION

B ANBUSELVAN @Chennai

THE 150-year-old Dr MG Ramachandran Central railway station in Chennai went silent on Sunday, making it the first in India to do so, as it bid adieu to the public announcement system similar to that of airports.

General manager R N Singh, officials were told to ensure all visual display boards are in working condition. Digital screens displaying the arrival and departure of trains in Tamil, Hindi and English have been installed at all three entry points - EVR Periyar Salai (MTC bus stop), suburban terminus, and Wall Tax Road (gate no 5). Concourse areas have also been covered with 40-60 inch digital boards. The PA system will continue for suburban trains.

A digital display board at the Central railway station | P JAWAHAR

Mentioning that the move was undertaken on an "experimental basis", an official spokesperson of the Chennai railway division said there will be no audio from advertisements as well. The voice behind the Tamil announcements belongs to Kavitha Murugesan, a dubbing artist and college lecturer based in Erode.

To aid disabled passengers, the station has now installed braille navigation maps at its main entrance. QR codes have also been pasted across the station for persons with disabilities.

Giving each other big shocks at home: Resident

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

TINU Cherian Abraham, a communications professional, who resides in Whitefield, said, "We are giving each other big shocks at home. Sometimes, we even see sparks when we touch each other. I thought it was just our home having some issues. I got to know that many people in Bengaluru are facing it. I have never faced something like this before."

Aakanksha Gaur, a creative director, tweeted, Bangalore folks, are you getting static shocks on touching metal since a few days? A crazy number of my friends are experiencing this. I saw a real little spark while opening the door knob." Her tweet went viral with hundreds sharing similar experiences.

In response, Poornima Prabhu said that she felt especially with car doors and while oiling her daughter's hair.

Rakesh Sharma added, "I have been experiencing this for the last 10 days. It happened even a day ago when I handed over my car keys to a valet for parking."

It also caused much mirth on social media with people speaking of romantic sparks flying between individuals.

Gandhians, Bishop's body refuse to toast Cong decision

T'Puram: Congress' bid to embrace modernity by dropping from its constitution the clause of abstinence from alcohol as a requirement for party members has drawn flak from Gandhians and the Kerala Catholic Bishop Council (KCBC). The Raipur plenary session's decision to make wearing khadi optional has also not gone well with some of the party's traditional supporters. "It's a deviation from the Gandhian philosophy. We'll oppose it," said Kerala Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi president N Radhakrishnan. Fr. John Areekal, general secretary of the KCBC's 'Madya Virudha Samithi' (anti-alcohol committee), alleged that the move is at the behest of the liquor lobby. "How could the successors of Gandhiji do this? We will oppose this tooth and nail," he said. Congress leaders from the state evaded specific questions. However, national general secretary Randeep Sing Surjewala, said the word intoxicant includes alcohol also. "Earlier only alcohol was prohibited. You could use drugs and be a member of the Congress party," he said. However, when pointed out that 'intoxicant' was there in the old constitution as well, he refused to reply.

EDITORIAL

It is not true that people stop pursuing dreams because they grow old, they grow old because they stop pursuing dreams

Gabriel García Márquez

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

KHERA'S ARREST AND THE POLITICS OF BRAND MANAGEMENT

For those who don't follow the 24x7 news cycle, Congress leader Pawan Khera's dramatic arrest and release for a slur against Prime Minister Narendra Modi could have appeared straight out of a Bollywood potboiler. Except that it happened and added to the rising graph of over-reactions the nation has been struggling to wrap its head around. Everything about it was over the top—from Khera's unacceptable ribbing of the PM in the wake of the Adani group's market meltdown to Assam having nothing better to do than flying in a police team to nab him, his dramatic deplaning from a Raipur-bound aircraft in Delhi and protests on the tarmac. The subsequent 'kabar khudegi' Congress hyperbole, too, fell into the same category, giving Modi yet another opportunity to play victim during his poll campaign in Meghalaya. Thankfully, the Supreme Court restored sanity by ordering interim bail but gave Khera a piece of its mind, saying, "there must be some level of discourse".

The government's broadside against George Soros, who postulated that Adani's downfall could weaken Modi's grip at the Centre, was another disproportionate reaction to criticism. So was the taxman's recent knock on BBC in India weeks after its docuseries on the 2002 Gujarat riots. The arrest of a professor by the Bengal Police over a cartoon of the Chief Minister; the Punjab Police going after a Delhi BJP functionary for his perceived slight against Arvind Kejriwal; and the crackdown against YouTubers in Tamil Nadu are a few examples of how thin-skinned parties in power can be across the spectrum.

Though the right to dissent is essential in a democracy, criticism is increasingly seen as challenging law and order. Often excessive police force is used to intimidate those with contrary views, warning them not to mess around with the power elite. Looking at it differently, the Modis, Mamatas and Kejriwals are the biggest brands of their respective parties. Organisations that fail to protect their brands from harm—like the Congress did to prime minister Manmohan Singh during the UPA rule—cannot escape its consequences, hence the counter activity and display of fierce loyalty. If the freedom of speech gets trampled in the process, then so be it, appears to be the thought process. But if the action is out of line with democratic principles, it ought to be called out unequivocally.

REGULATE E-PHARMACIES, END SALE OF SHADY DRUGS

The recent crackdown on 20 e-pharmacies has a Chinese connection. The government reportedly is uncomfortable with the growing dominance of Chinese presence with its estimated ₹20,000 crore investments towards the online sale of medicines. Regardless of the Chinese angle, e-pharmacies have long been accused of operating in the shadows and undertaking unlicensed drug and medicine sales. The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) first banned the online sale of medicines in December 2015. But nearly eight years later, it continues to be a grey area. The latest draft New Drugs, Medical Devices, and Cosmetics Bill, 2022, has comprehensive provisions including periodic inspections, complaint redressal mechanisms, monitoring e-pharmacies and others. All it needs now is a good finisher.

For a long time, the trade body, the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), representing retail chemists, has accused online players of predatory pricing and violating the standing provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetics Acts and Rules. In 2016, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry developed a self-regulation code for e-pharmacies, but the onslaught continued and with good reason. Indian regulations don't allow the supply of prescription medicines by unregistered pharmacies. Even if pharmacies are registered with the central drugs regulator CDSCO, they need permits from state regulators for sales and distribution. Online pharmacies fulfil orders from registered and licensed offline pharmacies. Still, it's a fact that these intermediaries are operating without necessary permits, prompting the CDSCO and state regulators to prohibit their operations until regulations are in place.

But an outright ban on heaving e-pharmacies to the hellbox must be avoided. It goes against the government's intent of building digital infrastructure as a key pillar driving India's long-term growth strategy. Moreover, the potential of India's over $344 million e-pharmacy market is promising. It's expected to grow at an enviable 40–45%, thanks to surging internet connectivity, mobile phone penetration, government initiatives and rising investments. While regulating drugs and medicines is crucial to public health and safety, the efficient and legitimate functioning of e-pharmacies can be ensured with comprehensive norms. It's the lack of unambiguous laws regulating, controlling and monitoring online players that can lead to an adverse effect on the health of the nation.

QUICK TAKE

BETWEEN LORDSHIP AND HONOUR

The judiciary is vexed not knowing how to address judges. It's in step with time, but traditions are tough to discard. Gujarat HC Chief Justice Sonia Gokani indicated how severe the matter was when she asked judges to be called 'Sir', irrespective of gender. The general sentiment is against using colonial terms like 'My Lordship' and 'My Lord'. Bar Council of India rules suggest using 'Your Honour', which former CJI S A Bobde disliked. The judges must decide on the etiquette right away. The confusion must not linger with judges merely insisting they are okay with any 'respectable' manner of address.

The course curriculum will no longer cater to the needs of the Indian economy but will be oriented towards the requirements of the developed world

PUSH FOR FOREIGN UNIVS IN INDIA WILL FAVOUR THE RICH

KAPIL SIBAL

Senior lawyer and member of Rajya Sabha

Money flows only in the hope of making a profit. This is true of all forms of investment and in particular, foreign investment. Whether it is Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) or Foreign Institutional Investment (FII), the aim of any such enterprise is to make profit.

The architecture of the World Trade Organization (WTO) for reduction or elimination of tariff barriers was to allow for export markets to be opened up for the developed world. The developed world has always had an upper hand when negotiating Foreign Trade Agreements (FTAs).

So, we should disabuse ourselves of the belief that the intent behind foreign investments in India is public good. They are here to make profit and the Government of India has opened its doors for such enterprises.

It has been recently reported that two Australian universities are ready to set up campuses in India replicating their institutions at home. This, according to the government, serves the purpose of ensuring that our students do not have to travel to Australia for higher studies. In reality, this is for those who already have the financial muscle to send their children abroad.

The policy framework for such investments, as has been articulated by this government, will allow such foreign campuses to regulate their own fees, work for profit and be entitled to repatriate surpluses, something that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had strongly opposed when I, as the then Minister for Human Resource Development, had mooted the idea of building an architecture for foreign investment in education.

While it is true that such a campus, when functional, will benefit Indian students, the fact is that the policy of the government with respect to reservation and affirmative action may not be applicable in admissions to such campuses.

Such campuses will tend to serve the interests of those students who can afford to take admission. Besides, the course curriculum will no longer cater to the needs of the Indian economy but will be oriented towards the requirements of the developed world.

Though one is happy to know that two of the allegedly top-ranked universities in the world are willing to explore the possibility of setting up campuses in India, I have my doubts whether other such universities like Harvard, Yale, Stanford, etc., will also be looking for such opportunities in India. Of the foreign higher educational institutions (FHEIs) in over 37 countries, 42 of over 300 campuses are in China, 33 in UAE, 16 in Singapore, 15 in Malaysia and 11 in Qatar. Of the 42 universities in China, the only known university of some global standing is NYU Shanghai, which has set up a campus. The other universities like Berkeley, Michigan, etc., owe their presence to joint centres or collaboration with Chinese universities. Not a single FHEI ranked above 100 is present in Malaysia.

To build a top-class university, what is needed is an amalgamation of research and high-quality teaching. The government's track record of research grants to universities at home has been relatively poor.

The reason why universities in the US produce ideas which can be converted into goods and services is because of substantial investments by the US government for R&D in education and technology as opposed to minuscule investments by India both in education and technology development.

Besides, the research in the US is not tied in any way. Their universities are allowed to choose research areas and often in collaboration with private enterprises. Even private entities with a track record benefit from exclusive research grants. Conglomerates have set up centres in universities where both teaching and research go hand in hand.

Unless the Government of India provides grants commensurate with our needs for research to create intellectual property and for the universities to have high-quality teaching, there is no possibility of this impacting the education system in India.

My worry, on the other hand, is that foreign universities will not be regulated with respect to both fixation of fees for students and salaries for teachers. Highly skilled teachers may well be persuaded to join such universities which in turn will damage the quality of domestic institutions in which the best minds are teaching.

A collaborative system of education with foreign universities, isolated from the rest of India, will become an oasis catering to the needs of the rich.

This is hardly the way forward. What will happen is that surpluses generated will be repatriated to their countries of origin and the kind of investment constantly required for high-quality research and teaching will not happen.

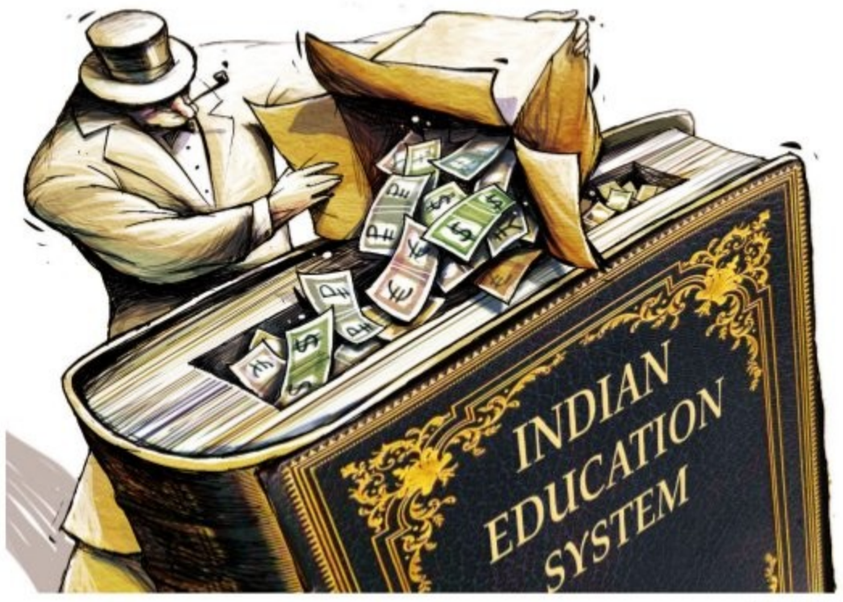
If private higher educational institutions are allowed to be set up in India, the question that may well be asked is why such profit motives are not available to investments in higher education at home. The Supreme Court has rejected the 'for-profit' model and allowed for all surpluses made by higher educational institutions to be invested back into the university system. Some of it has resulted in creating institutions of excellence through a public-private participation model.

The government should be committed to financing public universities in a big way, allowing them to hire permanent faculty rather than short-term, ad hoc contracts which are exploitative in nature. The government should be publicly committed to ensuring that education is at the top of our national agenda for 'Amrit Kaal' to be realised.

The way in which the New Education Policy caters to the setting up of foreign universities only shows that this government has no commitment towards educating the young in our higher educational institutions and is hoping that foreign universities will cater not to the needs of education but discourage the rich from sending their children abroad by providing such facilities at home.

This way, the government may save foreign exchange but will have let down the education system in India.

(Tweets @KapilSibal)



SOUMYADIP SINHA

THAT DARK AND STORMY NIGHT IN MATHURA

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

The story that I would like to retell this week properly belongs to Janmashtami, which falls in early September this year. But I cannot resist it because today is a monthly Jain fast called Rohini Vrat. Men and women reportedly observe this fast to help shake off karmic bondage. Rohini, meaning 'the red one' in Sanskrit, is the bright star Alpha Tauri or Aldebaran in the constellation Taurus. It is the fourth of the 27 *nakshatra* in Jain and Hindu tradition.

Among Indians, Rohini is said to bestow charisma and eloquence on those born under its influence and give them large, bright eyes to charm the world with.

It was chosen by Sri Krishna as his birth star, hence this story, which we can find in the *Srimad Bhagavatam*, Section 10. So it's also a chance to share the incantatory description of Sri Krishna's advent from this heritage book:

Mahavishnu meditated in the heavens before taking his eighth avatar or descent on earth, as Sri Krishna. The Unborn One put himself through these hardships because, as the Preserver, he was sworn to protect the good, punish the wicked and set the world right from age to age.

As Krishna, he chose to be 'born' in jail. His earthly mother, Devaki, and his earthly father, Vasudeva, had laughed and waved from their wedding carriage at the cheering people of Mathura. Devaki's brother, Kamsa, drove the carriage himself for them to greet the people. But a bodiless voice had silenced them all when it rang to say that Devaki's eighth child would kill Kamsa.

Kamsa had drawn his sword at once to kill his sister. But Vasudeva had bravely caught his sword arm. "It is not your sister's fault, monarch," he said steadily, shielding his bride. "Take our eighth child if you must but do not kill Devaki."

Kamsa then locked them up in Mathura jail and each time a child was born to them, he had rushed in and dashed the baby to death. Poor little mother, poor young father.

How afraid Vasudeva and Devaki had been when she conceived the dreaded eighth child. But as her time drew near, their faces grew calm and resolute. They would not let their suffering be in vain. They had clearly been chosen for a task beyond their understanding and they would meet it with courage, whatever it was.

Devaki felt sure that her child would be born on the eighth night of the moon's dark fortnight in the month of Shravan. And so it was.

There came that glorious hour, says the *Srimad Bhagavatam*, when the star Rohini arose in the dark night sky and all the planets stood in the best possible alignment. The stars shone softly, while on Earth, there was a sense of well-being in the cities, villages, fields, pastures and even the underground mines. A great peace fell on the world at that hour.

> Oil lamps burned brighter than ever before. The troubled minds of the people oppressed by cruel Kamsa grew calm in sleep as though they sensed the approaching birth of the Unborn One. Unheard by mortals, the singers in heaven sang sweet songs of welcome

The rivers sparkled crystal clear and the lakes suddenly bloomed with lotuses although it was night. The birds awoke and chirped softly in joy while swarms of bees buzzed gently in the forests, making pleasant music. The breezes blew sweet scents everywhere, free of dust, touching tired, sleeping bodies gently. Oil lamps burned brighter than ever before. The troubled minds of the people who were oppressed by cruel Kamsa grew calm in sleep as though they sensed the approaching birth of the Unborn One.

Unheard by mortals, the singers in heaven sang sweet songs of welcome in pure, clear voices. Holy men prayed with fervour and celestials showered flowers on Earth.

Heaving masses of clouds began to fill the sky and move as if in a great dance with the deep, rolling waves of the sea. All creation seemed to hold its breath, when Krishna, the world's well-wisher, emerged from the body of Devaki. He appeared among the heartsore and the weary like the full moon rising.

For one dazzling moment, Devaki and Vasudeva saw their wonderful child stand tall in godly splendour. He smiled, and his eyes held all the compassion in the world. Overcome by the vision, they fell at his feet. The glow faded and in its place lay a baby with curly dark hair, whose beauty made them weep like lost children who suddenly found themselves safe at home.

A voice told them what to do next. Their fetters fell off and the heavy doors of Mathura jail swung open past the sleeping guards. Vasudeva walked out with the baby towards the Yamuna, trying to shield his child from a sudden downpour.

The river was in full spate and roared and tumbled with great force. But trusting in God's mercy, Vasudeva set his trembling feet in her waters, and the great river parted to let him cross.

However, a wave leapt up to touch the baby's foot for Yamuna could not let him pass without a welcome. As Vasudeva stumbled across, a dark shadow glided forward and spread its hood above Vasudeva to shelter him and the baby from the rain.

Intent on crossing, Vasudeva did not notice that it was the great serpent Adisesha who had come to serve Mahavishnu in this new game. Are we not all players in his game? Who can blame Yamuna for her impulsive leap? She brims with many memories and surely the sweetest must be of that dark, rainy night in Shravan.

As directed, Vasudeva made his way to the hut of the cowherd chief Nanda at Gokul and exchanged babies. He made his way back to Mathura across a now calm river. Back in jail, he placed the baby girl he had brought home in place of his son in Devaki's arms. Their fetters sprang back.

Devaki and Vasudeva sat down exhausted, leaning against each other. Kamsa would come in the morning to wreak his worst. But the world would go on. The Lord had descended and gone away from Mathura.

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Armistice need of hour

Apropos of *Ready to contribute to any peace process: PM* (Feb 26). It is high time for New Delhi to be a good Samaritan by negotiating a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine. Building stronger ties with Russia without hurting the sentiments of the West has always been the challenging part in our foreign policy. It will be intriguing to see how PM Modi convinces Putin for an armistice.
Tushar Anand, Patna

India's motto of peace

India is known for its peacekeeping efforts. The PM's initiative to contribute to any peace process in the Ukraine dispute will strengthen the bond and lead to co-development on various platforms.
Chaithra B, Bengaluru

Sabre-rattling in Punjab

During the Russian invasion of Afghanistan in the Eighties when India toed a line contrary to that of the West, pro-Khalistani forces were unleashed in Punjab leading to Indira Gandhi's assassination and anti-Sikh riots. Forty years later, when India is again taking a different stand on the Russia-Ukraine war, the Khalistani elements are indulging in sabre-rattling in Punjab, the sordid Ajnala incident being the recent example. Is there more to it than that meets the eye?
N Balakrishnan, Chennai

New road for Cong

It is sad to note that the plenary session of the Congress amended its constitution, dispensing with alcohol and khadi, both rich legacies of the freedom struggle and Gandhian idealism. It proves that the party has changed lock, stock and barrel to keep up with the times.
Sundaram Govind, Aluva

Larger issues to focus on

The Congress' decision to drop the "abstention from alcohol" clause as a condition for being a party member hardly holds any relevance in the present context when there are so many vexing issues the party has to counter. It's hard to believe if this condition was being strictly followed by party members, old or new. A strong, committed crop of young leaders to take the party forward and regain the lost confidence of the people is the need of the hour.
C M Umanath, Calicut

Back door still open

Home Minister Amit Shah has said in Bihar that the BJP has closed its doors forever for Nitish Kumar. I think we should take this with a pinch of salt. In politics, back doors are always kept open and that's why Shah has not said which door.
N Nagarajan, email

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**

Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 59, No. 49 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Mahua Moitra @MahuaMoitra
No mainstream media covers DDCA chief Rohan Jaitley issue. Media didn't cover my Adani story 2019-2022. Then Hindenburg happened

Mehbooba Mufti @MehboobaMufti
Vicious cycle of killings doesn't seem to end. GOI has failed to protect minorities in J&K. People here is paying a heavy price for this facade of normalcy

Hardik Patel @HardikPatel_
Paid courtesy call on Dilipbhai Sanghani, chairman @IFFCO_PR. PM Modi & Coop minister Amit Shah are committed to bring positive change in people's lives

Cong promises caste survey, OBCs ministry

Eyeing the 2024 LS polls, party bats for special welfare scheme for minorities, Rohith Vemula Act for students

PREETHA NAIR @ Nava Raipur

WITH an eye on the vote bank of OBCs, tribals, Dalits, and minorities, the Congress Plenary session on Sunday passed a resolution promising a dedicated ministry for OBCs, conducting a socio-economic caste census, and a special Act called the Rohith Vemula Act to protect students hailing from backward communities.

As there is growing demand from several parties including NDA allies to conduct a caste census, Congress said that it is committed to hold a socio-economic caste census along with the decennial census.

"The BJP has consistently refused to conduct the caste census which would be crucial to revising the benchmark for socio-economic and educational backwardness. The Caste Census shall also enumerate Denotified Tribes and Nomadic Tribes," said the resolution. Incidentally, though the UPA government conducted a Socio-Economic Caste Census in 2011, the report is yet to see the light of day.

The party also said that to redress the discrimination faced by the students from SC, ST, OBC, and minority communities in educational institutions, it will enact a special Act called the Rohith Vemula Act to protect and safeguard their right to education and dignity.

While the BJP is reaching out to OBCs and minorities through mass contact programs ahead of the 2024 elections, Congress has promised a dedicated ministry for the community. "We will create a dedicated ministry for the empowerment of the OBCs. The Ministry will focus on expanding educational and employment opportunities of OBCs and provision of civic amenities in their habitations," said the resolution.

Third day of 85th Congress Plenary session in progress in Raipur | PTI

In another significant step, the resolution also promised Constitutional status to the National Commission for Minorities and National Commission for Women, a long-standing demand of activists and civil society groups. There has been renewed demand to implement the recommendations of the Sachar Committee report after the government slashed the budget allocation of the Minority Affairs Ministry and scrapped various scholarships for students from minority communities.

"Congress party is committed to implementing a special welfare scheme for minority welfare based on the recommendations of the Sachar committee. The Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) and the 15-point programme for minorities (as enunciated by Indira Gandhi, reformulated by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and effectively implemented by Dr. Manmohan Singh shall be implemented in full, Congress party is committed to accord Constitutional status to the National Commission for Minorities to endow the Commission with powers to serve the community better," it said.

The party also proposed a national law to ensure that a portion of the Union Budget is earmarked in proportion to the population of SCs and STs in the country.

RAIPUR PLENARY

Call grows for east-to-west Yatra 2.0

To build up on the momentum created by Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi, Congress is mulling holding a east-to-west yatra from Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh to Porbandar in Gujarat. On Sunday, AICC general secretary-in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said that there was a lot of enthusiasm and energy among party workers for another yatra. However, the party is yet to decide on the format of the yatra. It may not have such an elaborate infrastructure that was mobilised for the Bharat Jodo Yatra and may have fewer yatris, according to the Congress leader.

Adani case: Protests planned for 3 months

The Congress on Sunday announced a series of protests in the coming three months to corner the BJP government on the Adani-Hindenburg issue. The party has decided to intensify its agitation and take the issue directly to the people. All Pradesh Congress Committees have been asked to arrange conferences in all districts.

'Pressing need to guard Constitution'

Congress leaders had underlined the "pressing need" to safeguard the Constitution and democracy. Addressing the 'Hath-Se-Hath Jodo' meeting after the culmination of the plenary session in Raipur on Saturday, party chief Mallikarjun Kharge claimed the Modi govt was undemocratic and indulging in dictatorship.

Big promises to farmers

The Congress on Sunday passed a resolution promising farmers legal guarantee for MSP, doubling of farmers' income, redesigning NREGA, and scrapping Electricity Act among others. "The party resolves that MSP should be a legally enforceable right of the farmers. Purchase of agricultural produce below MSP be made a punishable offense," said the resolution at the 85th Plenary session in Raipur. The party also promised to expand and redesign MGNREGA and provide for increasing wages and guaranteed days of employment.

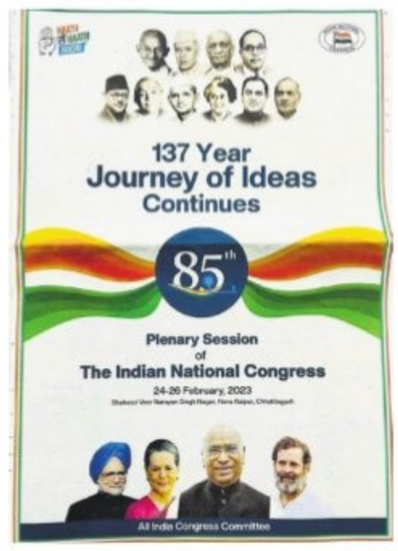
POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
Email: shahid@newindianexpress.com

Congress Goof-up

MISSING MAULANA SENDS PARTY IN A QUANDARY

The Congress issued a full-page advertisement on the front pages of newspapers across the country on the last day of its plenary at Raipur. The advertisement displayed pictures of the party's leading lights since its inception 137 years back. Gandhi, Nehru, Patel, Ambedkar, Bose, Sarojini Naidu, Shastri, Indira, Rajiv, Narasimha Rao, Manmohan, Sonia, Kharge, and Rahul appeared on the advertisement. But Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who has been part of the Congress pantheon and history, was missing. This caused a huge backlash with leading centrist figures, including writers, politicians, journalists, asking the Congress if the party's decision to drop the Maulana from the list of prominent leaders was a deliberate act. Noting the absence of the Maulana, former general secretary of the Editors Guild of India Sanjay Kapoor asked Congress president on Twitter to "put Maulana again in this gallery of leaders who built India and the Congress" and said "or do you think that he is not needed when taking on the BJP in 2024". Educationist and former Abul Kalam Azad chair at the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration Syed Irfan Habib posted the Congress advertisement on Twitter and said "sadly, I don't see Maulana Azad here. I think he was an important Congressman who deserved a place among these luminaries." Bahujan Samaj MP Kunwar Danish Ali tweeted, "Rahul Gandhi will have to confront and clean RSS elements in his party who are responsible for such a self-goal." The quick and widespread outrage forced Congress party's communications department head Jairam Ramesh to apologise. He tweeted: "Today an ad released by INC did not carry a photograph of Maulana Azad. It was an inexcusable slipup. Responsibility for it is being fixed and action will be taken. Meanwhile this is a most sincere apology from us. He will always remain an iconic and inspiring figure for us and India." It has, however, been pointed out that the responsibility of clearing these advertisements lies with Jairam Ramesh who heads the communications department. So who will he act against?



Stubble as fuel: India to partner with Denmark on bio power projects

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

THE visit of the Crown Prince of Denmark, **Frederik Andre Henrik Christian**, to India is likely to give a boost to setting up a bio-based power project that uses stubble as feedstock. If this is cleared it would be a boon for people living in the national capital territory as they have to bear the brunt of inhaling polluted air due to stubble burning every year.

"Indian and Danish firms have held discussions on this project where stubble will be used as feedstock. Denmark will provide the technical know-how for this project. As per estimates, a power project producing 15MW of power daily, will incentivise the farmers to sell their stubble instead of burning it. Technicalities are being worked out with the stubble of different crops including rice," say sources.

India and Denmark have a green strategic partnership, launched in 2020. Under five-year plan (2021-26), four pacts were signed in order to boost cooperation in green technologies and managing natural resources like groundwater.

Meanwhile, India and Denmark have also been in talks for constructing a off-shore wind energy plant in Tamil Nadu. There is a possibility of having a similar plant in Gujarat too.

The ongoing visit of Crown Prince Frederik may give this process a push. They are accompanied by representatives of nearly 40 firms and over a dozen deal with ways of reducing the wastage of water that is a huge problem in India and 26 firms that deal with energy, including offshore wind energy.

While in India, the Crown Prince will meet PM Modi, President DroupadiMurmu, Chief Ministers Stalin of Tamil Nadu and Yogi Adityanath of Uttar Pradesh. Danish Foreign Minister, Lars Rasmussen will meet with EAM Dr S Jaishankar and NSA Ajit Doval.

Bio-manufacturing hub: India to break into top five by 2025

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

UNION Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has said that India is on the way to becoming one of the top five global bio-manufacturing hubs. Speaking at the 37th Foundation Day of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) at the National Institute of Immunology on Sunday, Dr Singh said India acquire the prestigious position by 2025.

He said the Modi government was committed to promoting an innovation ecosystem in the country for industry-driven startups to facilitate jobs.

Dr Jitendra Singh, who is Minister of State (independent charge) Science and Technology, said: "The government will promote industry-driven startups to create wealth and jobs. "Startups will become sustainable if the industry identifies the subject/product from the very beginning and invest a matching equity with the government," he said.

The minister also called for an equal stake with equal partnership and responsibility by industry to sustain the startup boom. Elaborating on the PM's idea of an "Atma Nirbhar Bharat", the minister said India's vaccine strategy has brought together the pharmacy, industry, and academia in partnership, keeping an eye on meeting the current as well as possible future challenges. He pointed out that the idea behind such initiatives was aimed at bringing about a sustainable partnership in the long run and providing a sustainable source of livelihood to India's youth.

Highlighting the government initiatives, the minister reiterated that India's bio-economy has grown eight times higher in the last eight years under PM Modi from $ 10 billion in 2014 to over $80 billion in 2022.

"There is more to cheer about: biotech startups have also multiplied 100 times in the last eight years in the country from 52-odd startups in 2014 to more than 5,300 startups in 2022. A total of 1,128 biotech startups were brought into form in 2021 alone exhibiting the pace of growth taking place in this sector," he said.

He said the biotech sector in India has made a contribution in many fields due to the support it received from government and private sectors.

Record growth in 8 years

India's bio-economy grows 8 times in eight years -- from **$10 b** in 2014 to over $80 b in 2022

Biotech startups multiply 100 times from 52-odd startups in 2014 to more than **5,300** startups in 2022

1,128 biotech startups brought to fruition in 2021

Department of Biotechnology has 15 theme-based autonomous institutions across the country

Make In India

INDIAN COMPANIES PROTEST WAIVER FOR OUTSIDERS

Indian companies are up in arms over Army Headquarters' decision to allow the India subsidiary of German company Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co KG to participate in a tender for the supply of portable monitoring receiver (PMR) without having an industrial licence. The PMR is a highly-secured tactical electronic warfare system used by the Army and other forces for spectrum surveillance and intelligence gathering. Indian Army issued a restricted fast-track tender in October 2022 to several domestic companies for supplying 36 PMR systems costing Rs 300 crore in one year. The Indian subsidiary of the German defence company was declared the lowest bidder last month. Indian companies that participated in the tender were surprised to find the German company's subsidiary among the participants. They have written to the chairman of the empowered committee (EC) for this procurement stating that the India subsidiary of Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co KG does not have an industrial license for this product. "The India defence equipment procurement is governed by the Defence Acquisition Procedure-2020 which provides clear guidelines for shortlisting/pre-qualification for vendors. The guidelines include requirement of industrial licence for certain items. Press Note 1 issued by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion of the Union ministry of commerce and industry provides a list of defence items requiring industrial licence. The procurement under this RFP falls under this list mandating the availability of industrial licence with the prospective bidders," the EC chairman was informed by one of the Indian companies. It said that in spite of the fact that it was mandatory to have an industrial licence for participating in this tender, the same was not called for in the RFP. The EC chairman has been asked not to ignore this "serious lapse" by the Army Headquarters and withdraw the tender.

URBAN 20: CREATING CITIES FOR A GALVANISED GLOBAL ORDER

HARDEEP SINGH PURI
Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, and Petroleum and Natural Gas

THE inaugural event of the Urban 20 Engagement Group was held in Ahmedabad on February 9-10, 2023. Urban 20, or U20, is among the annual most influential city-level diplomacy initiatives. Receiving participation from Mayors and designated 'City Sherpas' from the G20 cohort, the deliberations at U20 inform G20 negotiations and are integral to the broader discourse around urban development.

The inaugural meeting was attended by more than 70 delegates from 42 cities – the largest recorded attendance since the inception of U20!

It is fitting that India is anchoring the discourse on urbanisation and urban dynamics this year. Under the Modi government, India has increasingly led action on issues of global governance. One such success story has been the transformation of our urban areas which has now become a blueprint for other countries to learn from, particularly in the Global South.

This year's U20 aims to shed light on the powerful implications of policies and practices adopted by cities on global development agendas.

The inaugural meeting built on these themes by foregrounding the role of cities in economic prosperity and ecological harmony. Significant progress was made on developing a consensus around the six priority areas identified. The highest emphasis was given to the urgency of adopting environmentally responsible behaviours to reduce our carbon footprint. Secondly, conserving water resources and providing equitable access to water assumed greater salience. Thirdly, there was an acceptance that climate financing needed to be accelerated as we sought to retrofit legacy infrastructure. Fourth, it became imperative that we rethink regulatory and governance frameworks in order to achieve strategic targets. Fifth, the popular demand to promote local identities of cities to animate civic society was recognised. Lastly, it was deemed essential to democratise processes that champion the use of technology and data.

The sixth edition of the Urban 20 Engagement Group – held in Ahmedabad on Feb 9 & 10 – has morphed into a platform that aims to equip city governments to close the gap between policy and practice by translating deliberations on urban governance into on-ground solutions

City representatives expressed their solidarity in taking forward this collaborative agenda. This sixth edition of the U20 has morphed into a platform that aims to equip city governments to close the gap between policy and practice by translating deliberations on urban governance into on-ground solutions. As 'Chair City' of the U20, Ahmedabad led by example as it expounded on the innovations adopted in developing the Sabarmati riverfront and the key features of its affordable housing policy and heritage management plan, among other reforms.

Ahmedabad encapsulates the spirit of citizen-oriented rejuvenation that India has embarked upon. In the last nine years, the Modi government has undertaken the largest planned urbanisation programme in the world, based on cooperative and competitive federalism; universalisation and saturation of basic services; technological innovation; economic opportunity; and a rural-urban continuum. Our urban transport policies are designed to fulfil the commitments of the Paris Agreement by adding green mobility options to India's urban landscape. Various transformative urban missions have resulted in Indian cities poised to help the country achieve its economic and SDG targets.

It is widely acknowledged that the onus of achieving SDG targets will lie with cities. In the case of India — which will have more than 600 million people residing in its cities by 2030 — I have often said, "if India succeeds, the SDGs will succeed; and for the SDGs to succeed, India must succeed." I do not doubt that India will succeed and will show the rest of the world how developing economies can tackle global challenges. The proof of our urban capabilities lies in how we overcame the pandemic despite our populous cities being severely affected. Through measures such as decentralised healthcare, direct cash transfers, universal service delivery and affordable rental housing, India demonstrated a governance approach that received global adulation and led to recent calls for replication.

At a time when the world is beset with geopolitical conflict, financial uncertainty and climatic stress, we must coordinate and calibrate policy responses from the lowest local level to the highest global gathering. As the oldest and largest democracy, it is in the Indian DNA to gain consensus among diverse opinions.

From this ethos, the theme of this year's G20 summit emanates: 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – One Earth. One Family. One Future.'

G20 2023 has the potential to be the crucible from which a framework for mutually beneficial and sustainable international economic cooperation will emerge. I believe U20 Ahmedabad will be the vanguard for this spirit of collective action to take shape in our cities. With continuous guidance from the G20 Secretariat, the National Institute of Urban Affairs, which is the U20 Technical Secretariat, and knowledge partners from across the globe, I am convinced that Ahmedabad's stewardship will enhance the impact of this sixth edition of U20.

I commend the City Sherpas who contributed meaningfully to the inaugural U20 event. I hope Mayors, Sherpas and representatives from cities will continue to participate in the 2023 U20 cycle leading up to the Mayoral Summit in July.

As we pursue the shared goal of a prosperous and sustainable world, this sixth edition of the U20 has the unique opportunity to build a roadmap that can inform urban policies for years to come.

UP IN FLAMES

After failing to find money, two masked thieves burnt nearly 150 important files following a break into the Lambloo branch of the Punjab National Bank on Sunday, police said. The duo entered the bank at 3 am.

3 GOVT OFFICERS DISMISSED FOR 'ANTI-NATIONAL' ACTIVITIES

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	35	20	Mumbai	35	23
Bhopal	33	16	Panaji	31	23
Jaipur	31	17	Patna	31	16
Amritsar	28	14	Lucknow	31	16
Chennai	31	25	Port Blair	31	24
Kolkata	34	22	Imphal	29	08
Srinagar	13	2	Chandigarh	30	15

Test for Shinde as Pune by-elections record low turnout

SUDHIR SURYAVANSHI @ Mumbai

PUNE's Kasaba Peth and Chinchwad by-elections in reported a low voting percentage of 45.25% and 41.1% respectively on Sunday. The by-elections were necessitated because of the death of BJP MLAs Mukta Tilak and Laxman Jagtap, respectively.

The by-elections are the first test of the Eknath Shinde-BJP government following the unseating of the Uddhav Thackeray-led MVA alliance government. Besides, these are the first elections since the Election Commission declared the Shinde faction as the 'real Shiv Sena,' denying Uddhav Thackeray his father's party name and symbol.

The results will tell which way the wind is blowing and define the future contours of state politics.

On Sunday, Kasaba Peth witnessed a low turnout, but in the evening it increased and by the end of the day, it reported a moderate 45.25% turnout. Congress has fielded Ravindra Dhangekar against the BJP's Hemant Rasane in Kasba Peth. In Chinchwad, late BJP MLA Laxman Jagtap's spouse Aswhini Jagtap is contesting against NCP's Nana Kate. In Chinchwad, officials at polling booths were seen welcoming early voters with roses and rangolis.

Chinchwad is an extended suburb of Pune and it is an industrial township near Pune city. As many as 270 polling stations have been set up at Kasbapeth and 510 in Chinchwad. There are 2,75,428 registered voters in the Kasba constituency while the Chinchwad constituency has 5,68,954 registered voters.

The Congress made several complaints against the BJP for "bribing" the votes by giving cash. Video clips surfaced on social media on Saturday and Sunday where money exchanging hands was shown.

On Saturday, Congress candidate Ravindra Dhanghekar also sat on hunger strike against the EC for not acting against BJP workers and leaders who in police vehicles carried the cash and distributed it to voters in broad daylight.

If the BJP manages to retain the two seats, the MVA – Uddhav's faction, Congress and NCP -- will have a tough time in sticking together. If BJP loses, then it will set the tone against the BJP in Maharashtra and that will not be good for the party for the Assembly and LS polls elections due next year.

Two 'coalition N-E states' vote today

NPP, TMC in tough fight in Meghalaya; Oppn weak & ruling BJP-NDPP has edge in Nagaland

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

AS Meghalaya goes to polls on Monday, it will witness a battle between the ruling National People's Party (NPP) and the Trinamool Congress (TMC). The state has 60 Assembly seats but voting will take place in 59 seats. The election to the Sohiong seat was deferred after the death of NPP candidate HDR Lyngdoh.

Meghalaya has had a history of coalition governments. Except for the first election in 1972 after it attained statehood, there was never a single-party government. In fact, it introduced the coalition government to the country. A large number of parties, both national and regional, are contesting the elections. The state has three regions – Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills. The Khasi and Jaintia Hills together have 36 seats while the Garo Hills region has 24 seats.

Unlike in Khasi and Jaintia Hills where the 36 seats invariably went to multiple parties in the previous elections, the Garo Hills largely vote for the ruling party and the main opposition. The NPP and the TMC are the two principal parties in the Garo Hills. Success there will decide which of them will lead the government.

The Congress had emerged as the single largest party in the 2018 elections by winning 21 seats but got relegated to a smaller party in due course after a series of defections of its MLAs. Not a single MLA is left in the party now.

MEGHALAYA GROUND SITUATION

Voting to take place: **59 seats**

1972: No single party has ruled it after statehood in 1972

Seat spread: Khasi & Jaintia Hills have 36 seats while Garo Hills has 24 seats.

Ruling party: 6-party National People's Party

Decisive area: Garo Hills.

Congress: Was largest party in 2018, won **21 seats**. After defections, no MLA left with it

BJP: Rivals see it as an anti-Christian in Christian-majority state

TMC: Had a backdoor entry after **12** Cong MLAs jumped ship in 2021

NPP: Seeks to project TMC as a party of 'outsiders'

The BJP and the TMC are trying to capture the Congress' space. The BJP, which has just two MLAs, went all guns blazing during the poll campaign but it is very unlikely that it will do any wonders. Its rivals have projected it as an anti-Christian party in the Christian-majority state.

The NPP is going to elections in the backdrop of a series of corruption charges leveled against the six-party ruling coalition. Recently, Congress came out with a ten-point "chargesheet" against them.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

NAGALAND will go to the elections on Monday in the backdrop of sporadic incidents of violence. The state has 60 seats but voting will take place in 59 of them. BJP candidate Kazheto Kinimi was elected unopposed from the Akuluto constituency after his lone rival Khekashe Sumi of the Congress had opted out.

In the poll-related violence, one person lost his life while some others were injured in Mokokchung, Wokha, and Dimapur districts. A car, belonging to a candidate, was also torched by the miscreants in the Mon district of eastern Nagaland.

Capitalizing on a moribund Opposition, the ruling BJP-Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) combine is set to retain power. The two parties struck a seat-sharing deal, as per which NDPP and BJP will contest 40 and 20 seats respectively. They had a similar arrangement in the 2018 elections.

The Naga People's Front (NPF), which had been in power in the state from 2003-18, virtually conceded defeat by contesting only 22 seats. It had emerged as the single largest party in the last election by winning 26 seats but the BJP-NDPP combine formed a coalition government along with others.

The NPF got disintegrated last year when its 21 MLAs defected to NDPP. Later, the NPF was accommodated in the government to make it an all-party and "Opposition-less" government.

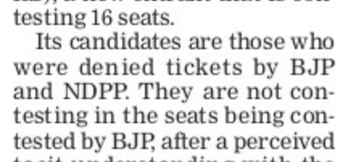
The idea was to pursue the unresolved Naga political issue cohesively with one voice.

The Congress, which was a powerhouse in the state under former Chief Minister SC Jamir but has now got reduced to a shadow of its glorious past, is contesting 23 seats. The party drew a blank in the last election.

The weakened Opposition has brightened the prospects of Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), a new entrant that is contesting 16 seats.

Its candidates are those who were denied tickets by BJP and NDPP. They are not contesting in the seats being contested by BJP, after a perceived tacit understanding with the saffron party.

NAGALAND SITUATION



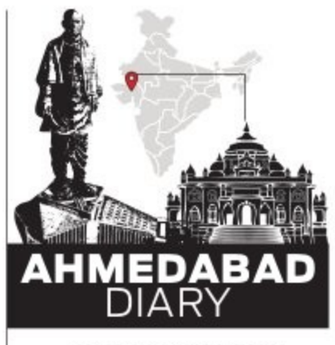
Voting: **59** seats (BJP candidate elected unopposed after Congress' opted out)

Ruling BJP-NDPP: Capitalizes on a moribund Opposition. Set to retain power

Seat-sharing: NDPP and BJP will contest **40** and **20** seats respectively

Weak Oppn: NPF virtually concedes defeat by contesting only **22** seats

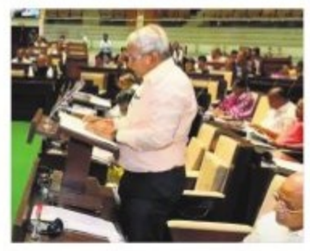
Congress: Contesting **23** seats. The party drew a blank in previous polls



DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
Our correspondent in Gujarat
dilipsingh@newindianexpress.com

Cong skips Budget day to attend C'garh party meet

Even after losing the post of Opposition and the win of the BJP in Gujarat, Congress leaders don't appear to have changed their ways. The BJP government's presentation of the budget to the Gujarat legislature on Friday was not attended by the Congress. On the condition of anonymity, a top Gujarat Congress official stated, "Most of the leaders, including the senior Congress MLAs, went to the Chhattisgarh Congress convention on the day the BJP government in assembly presented its budget. Wouldn't it have worked if these congress leaders had arrived at the convocation one day later?"



BJP begins prep for '24 polls, assigns new posts

The ruling BJP has started making arrangements to retain all 26 seats in Gujarat in the next Lok Sabha 2024 elections following a record-breaking victory in the 2022 state elections. To prepare, the BJP has begun offering posts and positions to disgruntled individuals who were ready to leave the party during Assembly elections and run as an independent candidates. As a result, the presidents of the districts of Vadodara and Kheda were recently replaced. Former MLA Satish Patel was named Vadodara district president, and Ajay Brahmbhatt was named Kheda district president by the BJP. The appointment of former MLA Satish Patels is significant.

State removes security of a few former ministers

The Bhupendra Patel-led Guj government recently decided to remove security of some of the former state ministers. As of now, up to 24 ex-state ministers will no longer be eligible for VVIP protection. About 67 bungalow guards, bodyguards, and security guards from the local police and the SRPF assigned to all these leaders have been ordered by Gandhinagar to surrender their weapons by 11 a.m. on Sunday. Former Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, former Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel, former Home Ministers Pradeep Singh Jadeja, Rajinikanth Patel, and Gordhan Zadafia's security, on the other hand, has stilll been maintained.

MP CM joins 40k tribals in Halma Utsav

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

HALMA — the Bhil tribe tradition of working together selflessly to help those in need without expecting anything in return – has immensely helped in environment and water conservation efforts in Jhabua district and will be expanded in Madhya Pradesh, CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced on Sunday.

"The Halma tradition will be expanded to entire MP for water, soil and environment protection," Chouhan said while addressing the closing ceremony of the two-day Halma Utsav and the 21-days long BJP government's state-wide Vikas Yatra at a hillock on Hathi Pawa hill range in Jhabua district of western MP.

Earlier in the day, the MP CM flew in a helicopter to Jhabua district and came out of the copter with Gaiti (pick-axe) on shoulder to join around 40,000 tribal volunteers in the Gaiti Yatra and Halma. "Halma teaches us that work should be made easy by combining the resources of the government with people," Chouhan said.

Trouble in Scindia fort: Guna first-time BJP MP digs out royal family past

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

ALL doesn't seem to be well within the ruling BJP in Guna Lok Sabha constituency – which was considered the pocket-borough of Gwalior's erstwhile royal Scindia family till 2019. First-time BJP MP from the seat Dr KP Yadav, who defeated his former political mentor, four-times sitting MP Jyotiraditya Scindia in the 2019 LS polls by 1.25 lakh votes, has launched a veiled attack on the Scindias.

Without naming the Scindia family, Yadav raised the issue of treachery with the queen of Jhansi, Rani Laxmi Bai, in the battle against the British during the country's first war of independence in the 19th century.

"All of us know about the shaurya (bravery) of Rani Laxmi Bai. We also know that had some people not betrayed her, then our country would've been celebrating 175 years of independence and not just 75 years," Yadav said while addressing an event of RSS-affiliated sports body Krida Bharti in Guna on Saturday.

Without taking Scindia family's name, Yadav raised the theory of then Gwalior ruler Jayaji Rao Scindia (Jyotiraditya Scindia's forefather), having betrayed the freedom struggle and one of its icons Rani Laxmi Bai in the battle against the British. Praising Yadav over his veiled attack on the Scindia clan, the MP Congress media wing head KK Mishra said, "We salute Yadav for showing the courage to expose an occupational politician and his traitor family. But at the same time, history will never forgive those BJP politicians who are now licking the boots of the same people who were once dubbed by them as *gaddar* (traitor)."

Importantly, earlier BJP leaders, including ex-MP and former MP minister Jaibhan Singh Pavaiya targeted the Scindias over the same theory, while Jyotiraditya was in the Congress.

Maoists kill 2 Armymen in Chhattisgarh

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipuri

A day after three jawans were killed in an encounter at the strife-torn Sukma, the outlawed CPI (Maoist) targeted the security personnel killing one in an improvised explosive device (IED) explosion triggered by them in south Bastar and shot dead an army man in Kanker.

During the last one week, as many as seven personnel were killed by the Maoists in the state. "On Sunday, a head constable of Chhattisgarh Armed Force, Sanjay Lakda was killed in an IED blast detonated by Maoists in Narayanpur district. The security forces have launched a search operation in the area after the incident", said Sundarraj P, inspector general of police (Bastar range).

In another incident, a jawan of Indian Army Motiram Anchla who had come on leave to his village Useli in Kanker district was killed by the suspected team of Maoists in the market area. He died on the spot.

Narayanpur and Kanker are among the seven Maoist-affected districts in the conflict zone of Bastar.

BJP to fight polls on party symbol in Raj, unlikely to project CM candidate

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

SENIOR BJP leader and party in-charge of Chhattisgarh, Om Prakash Mathur has asserted that the BJP will fight the assembly elections in Rajasthan on the lotus symbol. This implies that the party will not declare any Chief Ministerial candidate for the elections scheduled later this year. In addition, he has said that instead of all sitting MLAs getting tickets, 30 per cent new faces will be fielded by the party.

Mathur made the remarks during a meeting with party workers in Barmer on Friday. This is being seen as a setback for the camp of former CM Vasundhara Raje whose supporters are demanding that the elections should be fought with her face in the forefront. A major show of strength is being planned by Raje loyalists on her birthday early next month in the temple town of Salasar on March 4. Since Vasundhara's birthday on March 8 coincides with the festival of Holi, her supporters are holding the celebrations a few days earlier. Major preparations are being made by senior leaders in the Raje camp to make the occasion a grand success.

Though the Raje faction wants her to be projected as the CM face in Rajasthan, the party high command does not seem to agree. There are several other leaders in the race, which include Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, BJP state president Satish Poonia and Union Minister Gajendra Singh among others. The party's top brass has often said that they will fight the election under a collective leadership and highlight PM Narendra Modi's name.

In a first, gold urn to be installed at Kedarnath temple during yatra

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

THE Badrinath Kedarnath Temple Committee is going to install a gold urn during the Chardham Yatra at Kedarnath temple this time. For this, the committee is communicating with the donor devotees. This time the devotees will visit Baba Kedar in the golden-plated sanctorum.

Speaking to this daily, Chairman of Badri Kedar Temple comittee, Ajayendra Ajay said, "For the first time, the temple committee has used gold instead of silver in the sanctum sanctorum and committee has replaced silver with gold in the sanctum sanctorum".

Chairman of the Committee Ajayendra said, "Last year the portals of Kedarnath temple were opened on May 6 and were closed for winter on October 27. A few days before the closure of the portals, the Badrinath Kedarnath temple committee had plastered the walls of the sanctum sanctorum with gold instead of silver after the permission of the Archaeological Survey of India and the government. Also, special lights have been installed, which will further illuminate the aura of the golden plated sanctum. A Mumbai-based diamond merchant had donated to make the sanctum sanctorum gold-studded."

Ajay also said, "The silver layers extracted from the walls of the sanctum sanctorum of the temple have been kept in the strong room by the temple committee. So far this silver has not been used in the temple. The silver urn installed on the Kedarnath temple has become old."

According to Ajayendra, "The number of devotees who have registered for Kedarnath and Badrinath Dham in the Chardham Yatra has crossed 1.25 lakh. Of these, 62993 passengers have registered for Kedarnath and 51557 for Badrinath. So far, 1,14,553 people have registered for the Chardham Yatra registration that began on February 21."

J&K admn launches media blitz on property tax

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Lt Governor administration has launched a big media campaign, including advertisement blitzkrieg in newspapers and press conferences by officials to defend imposition of property tax in Jammu and Kashmir and apprise public about government point of view after political parties, traders and civil society members opposed imposition of property tax in the UT.

The government on February 17 announced to impose property tax on residential and non-residential properties in J&K from April 1. The decision drew instant opposition from public, political parties, traders and civil society groups. Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said property tax in J&K will be one of the lowest in the country and will be used for improving public amenities in J&K.

"Implementation shall be done in consultation with general public. Common citizens' interests will be protected," he said. In order to put forth a government point of view, the administration has gone on an advertisement blitzkrieg. It is publishing half a page advertisements in the local newspapers.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

In the advertisements published in today's newspapers with the title "Property Tax: Truths and Facts), the government informed the people about what is property tax, why property tax is being imposed in J&K, who pays property tax, What are parameters considered for calculating property Tax, What exemptions are available, etc".

Besides publishing advertisements in the local newspapers, the officials are also addressing press conferences to put across the government point of view.

"One third of the population was exempted from the property tax as their property was less than 1000 sq ft and no tax is charged on houses having less 1000 sq ft area," said Divisional Commissioner Kashmir V B Biduhuri and SMC Commissioner Athar Aamir Khan in a joint press conference on Saturday.

The government has also asked all 20 Deputy Commissioners of J&K to build public awareness regarding the property tax and clear the apprehensions of the people. Srinagar Mayor Junaid Azim Mattu, however, has opposed imposition of property tax. "Imposition of property tax in J&K is ironically violative of municipal empowerment as this has neither been deliberated upon and nor approved by elected ULBs", he said.

The parties continue to oppose imposition of property tax and protests were held in J&K.

The bid media push

After the J&K administration, led by Manoj Sinha , announced the imposition of property tax on residential and non-residential properties in J&K from April 1, it drew instant opposition from public, political parties, traders and civil society groups. In order to put forth a government point of view, the administration has gone on an advertisement blitzkrieg, where it informs what the tax is about.

ONE

killed and three injured after a bus overturned in Croatia, police said on Sunday

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	14	1	TDS	Los Angeles	12	7	LC
Colombo	31	24	LC	Melbourne	19	16	HR
Dhaka	32	21	TDS	Moscow	-2	-11	HR
Dubai	31	22	SNY	New York	6	2	LC
Houston	28	18	SNY	Singapore	28	24	TDS
Istanbul	18	12	LC	Toronto	0	-1	LC
London	9	2	LC	Washington	8	6	LC

Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'

Nepal premier to visit Qatar on his first overseas trip

KATHMANDU

NEPAL PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' will visit Qatar later this week on his first official foreign trip since assuming office two months ago.

Prachanda will be leading a Nepalese delegation to Doha where he will attend the fifth conference of the Least Developed Countries (LDC), as per Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Nepalese delegation will leave for Qatar on March 3 and return back on March 6. While in Doha, Prachanda will participate in a plethora of programmes organised by the UN on the sidelines of the conference, the ministry said. Prachanda will also be making the country statement in the general debate of the conference and will address a conference organised by Malawi, the chair of the LDCs, on March 4. There will be eight thematic round-table meetings during the LDCs' Fifth Conference and the Nepali delegation will participate in three of these meetings, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

His trip to Doha comes at a time when his hold on power is increasingly under threat. The Rashtriya Prajatantra Party (RPP), a key partner in the seven parties ruling alliance in Nepal, has decided to withdraw its support to 'Prachanda'-led government, citing changes in the political equation. "In view of the sudden change in the political equation and cooperation within the ruling government, the Rastriya Prajatantra Party has decided to quit the government," said a statement issued by RPP spokesperson Mohan Kumar Shrestha. "The party believes that changes are clear signs of inherent instability, and it would be inappropriate for the party to remain in power in changed context." *PTI*

British PM Rishi Sunak vows to give everything for new Brexit deal

LONDON

UK PM Rishi Sunak on Sunday pledged to give everything he has got to fix the lingering problems of Brexit and clinch a new deal with the EU that resolves the problematic Northern Ireland Protocol.

The protocol, agreed by his former boss Boris Johnson, was struck to prevent a hard border between UK territory Northern Ireland and EU member-state Ireland. However, in practice, it has proved controversial and created a standoff between the UK and EU over a resolution until now, when hopes of a new deal have been revived after intensive talks.

Tory MPs to support UK PM over the Bill

Hard Brexiteers within the Conservative Party have warned against backing down over the Bill. However, several Tory MPs are believed to now be backing Sunak on getting a new deal done, with any rebellion in a House of Commons vote expected next week likely to be minor.

"I voted for Brexit and I believe in Brexit because it offers vast opportunities for families and businesses across our whole country," writes Sunak in *The Daily Telegraph*.

He notes that while Brexit was about restoring the UK's sovereignty, the Northern Ireland Protocol had undermined that and created "a serious barrier to trade within the UK, and that is unacceptable." "My job is to seize this opportunity, confront the hard choices, and give everything I've got. And I promise you this: I won't agree on any deal which doesn't fix the problems and deliver for Northern Ireland and our precious Union. That is the best way to finish the job, to unleash the opportunities of Brexit for every part of our United Kingdom and finally, to get Brexit done," he writes.

The protocol meant goods arriving from England, Scotland, and Wales within the United Kingdom are checked when they arrive at Northern Irish ports. Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party are strongly opposed to this as they see it as undermining the region's position within the rest of the UK, besides severely impacting trade.

"No British PM could ever sit back and just allow these problems to continue. That's why my predecessors were right to create the Northern Ireland Protocol Bill and why I supported them in doing so," notes Sunak. *PTI*

OVERLOADED MIGRANT BOAT BREAKS IN ITALY, MANY KILLED

Accident happened near southern Italian city of Crotone, most of the passengers were coming from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Somalia

ROME

AN accident involving an overloaded migrant boat that sank near the southern Italian city of Crotone on Sunday has killed 59 people, the mayor said. "As of a few minutes ago, the number of confirmed victims was 59," Vincenzo Voce said.

The wooden boat smashed into rocky reefs and broke apart off southern Italy before dawn on Sunday, the Italian coast guard and UN agencies said. Survivors indicated that dozens more could be missing from the boat that had set out from Turkey.

The Italian Coast Guard said at least 80 people were found alive, "some of whom succeeded in reaching the shore after the shipwreck."

The precise numbers were hard to establish. A reporter for Italian *RAI state TV*, quoted local authorities as saying 60 bodies had been recovered.

More than 170 migrants were estimated to have been aboard the ship, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, said.

Among those aboard, there were "children and entire families," the UN statement said, with most of the passengers coming from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Somalia.

Rescuers recover a body at a beach near Cutro, southern Italy, after a migrant boat broke apart in rough seas on Sunday | AP

The boat collided with the reefs in violently rough seas, whipped up by powerful winds. Some of the wreckage ended up on a stretch of beach along Calabria's Ionian Sea coast, where splintered pieces of wood littered sand like matchsticks.

"All of the survivors are adults," said Red Cross volunteer Ignazio Mangione." Unfortunately, all the children are among the missing or were found dead on the beach." A months-old baby and a boy of 8 were among the dead. One survivor was taken into custody for questioning after survivors indicated he was a trafficker, *RAI state TV* said.

In a statement released by the Italian premier's office, Giorgia Meloni expressed "her deep sorrow for the many human lives torn away by human traffickers." "It's inhumane to exchange the lives of men, women and children for the 'price' of a ticket paid by them in the false prospect for a safe voyage," she said. *Agencies*

NATO seeks Kremlin's strategic defeat, says Putin

TALLINN

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin said on Sunday that Russia has no choice but to take into account NATO's nuclear capabilities, in remarks justifying Russia's recent suspension of its participation in the New START treaty.

Putin claimed that Russia faces an existential threat because in his view, NATO members are seeking the country's "strategic defeat." He said that the suspension of New START stemmed from the need to "ensure security, strategic stability" for Russia. "When all the leading NATO countries have declared their main goal as inflicting a strategic defeat on us ...how can we ignore their nuclear capabilities in these conditions?" Putin said.

Demonstrators rally in support of Ukraine at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, US on Saturday | AP

In the interview with *Russia 1* on Sunday—Putin said that while NATO countries are not party to the treaty, they became part of the "discussions on the issue," which Moscow doesn't object to, especially since it can't ignore NATO's nuclear capabilities.

Putin alleged that the West wants to eliminate Russia. "They have one goal: to disband the former Soviet Union and its fundamental part—the Russian Federation," Putin said.

If the West succeeds in destroying Russia and establishing control, Russians may not survive as a unified nation. "There will be Muscovites, Uralians...," he said of Russia's possible fragmentation. The West could only partly accept Russia into the so-called "family of civilised peoples," breaking the country into separate pieces, he theorised.

Meanwhile, the US is "confident" that China is considering providing lethal equipment to Russian forces, according to CIA director William Burns.

Such a step by China would be "a very risky and unwise bet," Burns said in an interview aired on Sunday.

His comments, along with others on Sunday by national security adviser Jake Sullivan, constituted the latest US warning to China to stop short of providing lethal weaponry to Russia.

Burns and Sullivan made clear that the US has yet to detect signs that any weaponry has been shipped. *Agencies*

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **M/S Saranya Properties Pvt Ltd** is willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Clients **Sri. P. Tanmayee Patro** Flat number A-204 **and Sri. Saroja Kumar Panda and Smt. Rasmimayee Tripathy** Flat Number 104 free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr.RADESH.K, Office at Third Floor, Above Favara Car World, SMN Complex, Whitefield Main Road, Thubarahalli, Bangalore. within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Apartment bearing **Flat No: 104,** First Floor, **Block-A,** measuring **1340 Square Feet** of super built up area and **510 Square Feet** of undivided share and **Flat No: 204,** Second Floor, **Block-A,** measuring **1340 Square Feet** of super built up area and **510 Square Feet** of undivided share in the Project known as **"SARANYA SANNIDHI",** Constructed on the Property bearing Survey Nos: 68/1, 68/2, 69/1, 69/2, 69/4 & 51/4, totally measuring 2 Acres, Situated at Hagadur Village, K.R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk.

Contact : **Mr. RADESH BE,** LL.B, LL.M
Director : MKM Legal Solutions Pvt Ltd.
e-mail id : radesh@mkmlegalsolutions
Contact No: +91 7847961441

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my clients **(i) Sri Anjaneya** S/o late Ganeshappa, aged 49 years, **(ii) Smt.Padma** W/o Anjaneya, aged 37 years; **(iii) Sri Ravikumar** S/o Anjaneya, aged 18 years, and **(iv) Master Ajay** S/o Anjaneya, aged 16 years, since minor, represented by his father Sri Anjaneya; all are R/of Seethakempanahalli Village, Kakolu Post, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru - 560 089 had executed a **G.P.A dated 25-01-2023** bearing Document No.GNR-4-00546-2022-23 of Book-4, stored in C.D.No.GNRD1191, dated 27-01-2023, Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagar (Ganganagar), Bengaluru, in respect of the Schedule property, in favour of Sri Manugowda C., S/o Channegowda, R/o Seethakempanahalli Village, Kakolu Post, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru-560 089. My clients have **cancelled the** said **G.P.A dated 25-01-2023** and they have also issued Legal Notice to Sri Manugowda C. Hence, the General Public are hereby requested **not to enter into any transaction or deed of any kind or any arrangement whatsoever with the said Sri Manugowda C. in any manner in respect of Schedule Property.** In spite of this, if any person/s were to enter into any transaction or deed of any kind or any arrangement whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property, please note that he will be doing so at his/their own risk and costs and the same will not be valid in eye of law and that in an such event, he/they will be held responsible for all the consequences and the said transaction will not be binding upon my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land measuring **2 acres 10 guntas** as comprised in **Sy.No.12/1A (Old No.12)** situated at Seethakempanahalli Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, (formerly Bengaluru North Taluk), bounded on: **East by:** Remaining land in Sy.No.12/1A, **West by:** Land of in Sy.No.13/2B, **North by:** Kakolu Village Border, **South by:** Land in Sy.No.14/3 and 14/4.

J.R. MOHAN, Advocate
8, 2nd floor, 11th Cross, 1st Main, Manjunatha Nagar, (Near Mallige Thota), Magadi Road Cross, Bengaluru - 560 023.
Mobile: 98458 32733

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Shri Murthy S/o Shri Narasimhaiah**, Major, Aadhar No. 6806 5120 1814 Residing at No. 2/1, 3rd Floor, 11th Main, BSK 1st Stage, 2nd Block, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore-560050 would like to purchase the schedule property and also is going to enter into Agreement of Sale in respect of the property mentioned in the Schedule hereunder with **Mr. R. Girish S/o Shri Late Shri Ramanna and Smt. Jayamma,** residing at No. 461, 4th Main Road, Brahmaputranadi Road, Dobighat, Bangalore-560019. Any person/s having any manner of right, title, interest or any sort of claims or objections to the sale transaction, whatsoever are requested to contact the undersigned within **7 (Seven)** days from the date of this Publication, with documentary evidence. In case no such claims or objections are received by the undersigned then my client shall go ahead with the purchase of the property after which no such claims or objections would be entertained.

Schedule Property:

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.33, Corporation Municipal No. 461, Corporation PID No. 52-81-461, BBMP Ward No. 52, Present Ward No.155, Gavipura Village Sy. No. 6/1, Bangalore City Corporation Division No. 31, Bramhaputranadi Road, Kasaba Hobli, Gavipura, Bangalore North Taluk, in all measuring 1350 square feet and bounded on the:- East by: Site No. 26 present Property No. 384, West by: Road, North by: Site No. 34 present Property No. 462, South by: Site belongs to Smt. B.B Parvathamma present Property No. 460.

Place: Bangalore
Dated: 27.02.2023 **Sd/-**
MANJUNATH V, Advocate,
LEX AVENUE, Advocates & Solicitors,
No.42/1, 7th Cross, 5th Main Road,
Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.
Mobile: 8123404474/9141741762

QuoteExpress

PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES

ROBERT H SCHULLER

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients **Mr. R. Girish S/o Late Shri Ramanna and Smt. Jayamma,** residing at No. 461, 4th Main Road, Brahmaputranadi Road, Dobighat, Bangalore-560019, inform the General Public that he has lost the original document of General Power of Attorney executed in favour of Shri V.R Shivakumar in respect of the schedule property. In this regard my client had lodged a Complaint on 21.02.2023 vide lost report No. 0479923/2023. If any person who can trace/finds the same may please hand over it to the aforesaid owner/ undersigned advocate within 7 days from the date of this notice.

Schedule Property:

All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Site No.33, Corporation Municipal No. 461, Corporation PID No. 52-81-461, BBMP Ward No. 52, Present Ward No.155, Gavipura Village Sy. No. 6/1, Bangalore City Corporation Division No. 31, Bramhaputranadi Road, Kasaba Hobli, Gavipura, Bangalore North Taluk, in all measuring 1350 square feet and bounded on the:- East by: Site No. 26 present Property No. 384, West by: Road, North by: Site No. 34 present Property No. 462,
South by: Site belongs to Smt. B.B Parvathamma present Property No. 460.

Place: Bangalore
Dated: 27.02.2023 **Sd/-**
MANJUNATH V, Advocate,
LEX AVENUE, Advocates & Solicitors,
No.42/1, 7th Cross, 5th Main Road,
Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.
Mobile: 8123404474/9141741762

IN THE COURT OF THE 35th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-36)

Original Suit No. 6802 of 2019

BETWEEN : 1. Sri. M.P. Ravindra Kumar, S/o late Mayigaiah, Aged about 48 years, Residing at: #919, 1st Cross, Opposite to Corporation Bank, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 098.

2. Smt. Saroja, W/o Sri. Ravindra Kumar, Aged about 37 years, Residing at: #919, 1st Cross, Opposite to Corporation Bank, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 098. ...PLAINTIFF

AND : Smt. Bhagyalakshmi, D/o late Sri. Krishnan, Aged about 41 years, Residing at Municipal No. 100, Pipeline Road, Mahalakshmipuram Post, J.C. Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 086. ...DEFENDANT

Summons to Defendant U/o V Rule 20 CPC

Smt. Bhagyalakshmi, D/o late Sri. Krishnan K.L., Aged about 41 years, Residing at Municipal No. 100, Pipeline Road, Mahalakshmipuram Post, J.C. Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 086.

WHEREAS, the plaintiff has filed the above suit for the Following reliefs:

i. Declaration that the Deed of Cancellation dated 02.07.2014 registered as Document No. SRI-1-02020-2014-15, stored at the Book No. 1, CD No. SRID 167, registered on 03.07.2014 in the office of the Sub Registrar, Srirampuram as void and not binding on the Plaintiff;
ii. Directing the Defendant to hand over vacant possession of the suit schedule property in favour of the Plaintiffs;
iii. Declare that the Plaintiff No. 1 is the absolute owner of the suit schedule property;
iv. Perpetual injunction against the Defendant, her henchmen, agents, assigns and all persons claiming through and under her from interfering with the peaceful possession of the Plaintiff in the suit schedule property;
v. Costs of the suit;
vi. Such other relief as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit to grant in the interest of justice.

WHEREAS, the above suit is posted **on 05.04.2023 at 11.00 A.M** for the appearance of the Defendant. Take notice that you are hereby summoned to appear in the above suit either by yourself or through agents or counsels to defend the above suit, failing which the above suit will be disposed of in your absence by placing you exparte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Old Assessment No. 181, New Assessment No. 187/1, Khatha No.988, Site No.6, Situated at BBMP, Old Ward No. 13, New Ward No. 75, Pipeline Road, Mahalakshmipuram, J.C. Nagar, PID 13-79-100, Municipal No. 100, Bangalore and bounded on the

East : Private property, **West :** Road, **North :** Property, **South :** Pipeline Main Road.

Measuring from:

East to West towards the Northern side : 16 feet,
East to West towards the Southern side : 19 feet,
North to South towards the Eastern side : 27 feet,
North to South towards the Western side : 37 feet,
Totally measuring 560 sq.feet.

Given under my hand, seal of the Court, on this 8.2.2023.

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.
Advocate for The Plaintiff

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No.:SEE/WMC/TKR/6095-97 Date:24.02.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement mode only)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Tender for the following works.

1) Bid Enquiry No: SEE/TR(W&M)/TKR/EE(O)/AEE-2/Enq-33/dated:23.02.2023 for Augmentation of 1x10MVA, Power Transformer-1 by 1x20MVA Power Transformer at 110/11kV Substation, **Ammasandra** in K.B.Cross Division, Tumakuru Circle on partial turnkey basis.

2) Bid Enquiry No:SEE/TR(W&M)/TKR/EE(O)/AEE-2/Enq-34/dated:23.02.2023 for Providing 1 number of Intermediate Tower (DB+0) between location No.72 to 73 of existing **66KV Pavagada Shylapura SC line** for avoiding the Hazardous situation due to insufficient ground clearance at Shylapura limits, Pavagada Taluk on total turnkey basis.

3) Bid Enquiry No:SEE/TR(W&M)/TKR/EE(O)/AEE-2/Enq-35/dated:23.02.2023 for Combined package for the work of Providing additional 11KV switchgears at 110/11KV **Handanakere,** 66/11KV **Santhemavathur,** 66/11KV **Kempanahalli,** 66/11KV **Thimmasandra** and 66/11KV **Dasudi** sub-stations in K.B.Cross Division on PARTIAL TURNKEY BASIS.

The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or directly logging on to website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/on or after **27.02.2023.** For more details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elecl.),
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Siddaganga Complex, B.H.Road, Tumakuru-2

Bharat Bank
Bharat Co-op. Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.
Multi-State Scheduled Bank

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 06.12.2022 calling upon the Borrower **Mr.Sonnappa N, S/o. Mr.Narayanappa, Prop of M/s.Sri Balaji Fabricators** residing at No.E24-1, Behind Nethaji ITI, Bhuvneshwari Nagar, T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore North-560 057 to repay the amount mentioned in the Demand Notice being **(i) Rs.76,82,985/-** (Rupees Seventy Six Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Nine Hundred & Eighty Five) as on 29.11.2022 under Term Loan Account No.004533580000046 and **(ii) Rs.45,03,927/-** (Rupees Forty Five Lakh Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Seven) as on 30.11.2022 under Cash Credit Limit Account No.004513100000280 along with further interest & other charges respectively within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken the Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub section (4) of section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this 24th day of February 2023.

The Borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said Property and any dealings with the said Property shall be subject to the charge of Bharat Co-Operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd, for an amount as aforesaid, less amount paid thereafter if any.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8)of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

(i) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing **Site No.27,** formed in Assessment No.63/1 situated at **Mallasandra village, Yashwanthapur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Dasarhalli CMC Limits,** presently comes under BBMP Ward No.14, measuring East to West 43 ft and North to South 30 ft in **total 1290 sq. ft.** alongwith building constructed thereupon, owned by **Mr.Sonnappa N** and bounded by:

East : Site No.6
West : 30-0 feet road
North : Site No.28
South : Southern portion of Site no.26

(ii) All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing **Site No.3,** Assessment No.50, Present Katha No.885, situated at **Karivobanahalli village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** land measuring East to West 30-0 ft and North to South 40-0 ft, in **total 1200 sq. ft.** along with building constructed thereupon, owned by **Mr.Sonnappa N** and bounded by:

East : Site No.2
West : Site No.4
North : Site No.14
South : Road

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer,
Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.
No. 100, Money Terrace, K.H. Road, Bangalore-560 027
Tel : K.H. Road Branch : 080-22121066, 22291942

Place : Bangalore
Date : 24.02.2023

TAMIL NADU TEXT BOOK AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION, CHENNAI-600006
"E.V.K. Sampath Maaligai" No.68, College Road, Chennai – 600 006
Phone : 044 - 28275851, 044- 28278244 Fax No.044 - 28224493 E.mail: mdtntbc07@hotmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Rc.No.613/PUR-1/2023 Date:25.02.2023

1	Name of the Work	:	Tender For Facility Management Service Provider (FMSP) - Housekeeping, Sanitation And Security Services In Government Schools Under The Control Of Commissionerate Of School Education in Tamil Nadu
2	Sale period of Tender document	:	On all working days from 27.02.2023 to 28.03.2023 between 10.00 A.M to 05.00 P.M.
3	Pre Bid meeting date & time place	:	08.03.2023 at 03.00.p.m. in Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai-6
4	Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender	:	29.03.2023 up to 2.00 P.M.
5	Tender opening time & date place	:	29.03.2023 at 2.30 P.M. in Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai-6
6	Tender document can be downloaded at free of cost from the website	:	a) http://www.textbookcorp.tn.gov.in b) http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in

Sd/- Managing Director
Tender Inviting Authority, Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai-6

DIPR/1195/Tender/2023

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large, that FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD., has decided to conduct Auction of Gold ornaments belonging to accounts (mentioned below) which have become overdue or which have defaults or margin breach of customers. The Auction would be held at respective Branches specified below on **Thursday 09-03-2023 between 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.** This would continue till the auction process is over.

Anekal 080-27830505 **FEDGL0088**0003007 **Arakalgud** 08175-220780 **FEDGL0036**0008058, 0008068, 0008071, 0008072, 0008077, 0008087, 0008100, 0008105 **Arasikere** 08174-299941 **FEDGL0414**0000641, 0001625, 0002504, 0002565 **B H Road** 8162277793 **FEDGL0103**0006647, 0006651, 0006652, 0006661, 0006667, 0006708 **BASAVESHWARA NAGAR** 080 41900282 **FEDGL0011**0008848, 0009897, 0009901 **BELGAUM** 0831 4201487 **FEDGL0136**0003363, 0003384, 0003385, 0003390, 0003393, 0003408, 0003409 **BELUR** 08177 222100 **FEDGL0159**0007460, 0007480 **BOMMANAHALLI** 080 41500417 **FEDGL0014**0005910, 0005921, 0006564, 0006463, 0006634, 0006944 **BTM LAYOUT** 080-41312231 **FEDGL0003**0004801, 0004816, 0004817, 0005387 **BYADGI** 8375229022 **FEDGL0051**0006806, 0006815, 0006820, 0006826, 0006835, 0006839, 0006843, 0006844, 0006845, 0006846, 0006848, 0006855, 0006867, 0006878, 0006881, 0009225 **Caltex Circle** 8162277972 **FEDGL0102**0006812, 0006829, 0006831, 0006851, 0006852, 0006866 **Car Street Bellary** 8392276005 **FEDGL0092**0002476, 0003227, 0003226 **CHANNAPATNA** 080 27256046 **FEDGL0176**0015194, 0015207, 0015208, 0015212, 0015247, 0015251, 0015258, 0017775 **CHENRAYAPATNA** 08176 252477 **FEDGL0158**0016882, 0016912, 0016913, 0016922, 0016930, 0016933, 0016938, 0016942, 0016945, 0016948, 0016974 **CHIKKAMAGALUR** 08262 228286 **FEDGL0021**0005746, 0005747, 0005748, 0006443 **DAVANGERE** 08192-252111 **FEDGL0229**0007378, 0007380, 0007381, 0007384, 0008615 **Dharwad** 0836-2970229 **FEDGL0233**0004541, 0004552, 0005110, 0005079 **Gubbi** 8131222850 **FEDGL0046**0007786, 0007798, 0007812, 0007853, 0009689 **Gundalpete** 08229-295128 **FEDGL0383**0001136, 0001142, 0001143, 0001144 **H D Kote** 08228-297033 **FEDGL0058**0006325, 0006331, 0006337, 0006339, 0006345 **Hagaribommanhalli** 08397-239003 **FEDGL0100**0005703, 005709, 005725, 005728, 005738, 005745, 005746, 005750, 005754, 005757, 007224, 007870 **HANSUR** 08222 250114 **FEDGL0162**0013635, 0013666, 0014561 **Harappanahalli** 8398281429 **FEDGL0104**0005874, 0005883 **HARIHAR** 08192-242865 **FEDGL0022**0011097, 0011119 **HASSAN MARKET** 08172 235324 **FEDGL0157**0008872 **HAVERI** 8375232810 **FEDGL0181**0008351, 0008373 **Holenarsipura** 08175-273733 **FEDGL0059**0014770, 0014778, 0014787, 0014794, 0014801, 0014830, 0014853, 0014896 **HOSA ROAD** 080-257444811 **FEDGL0002**0009605 **Hospet** 08394-226899 **FEDGL0099**0004633, 0004638, 0004646, 0004655, 0004658, 0006215, 0006093, 0006241, 0006076, 0006255, 0006254 **JEEVAN BHEEMA NAGAR** 080 41900283 **FEDGL0019**0002561 **K R NAGAR** 08223-262045 **FEDGL0161**0008801, 0008817 **K R Pete** 08230-262886 **FEDGL0063**0005095, 0005097, 0005128 **K R PURAM** 080 25610669 **FEDGL0012**0010512, 0010513 **K R ROAD** 8192272223 **FEDGL0037**0003945, 0003949, 0003954, 0003963 **Kadur** 08267-200280 **FEDGL0487**0000207 **KAMMANAHALLI** 080-40926572 **FEDGL0005**0003239, 0003714 **Kampli** 08394-250822 **FEDGL0095**0004931 **Kappogal Road Bellary** 08392-255005 **FEDGL0093**0002427, 0002443, 0002446, 0002448, 0002452 **KOPIKAR ROAD** 8362362444 **FEDGL0155**0005896 **Koppal** 8539200090 **FEDGL0403**0000462, 0000474 **Kudligi** 08391-299920 **FEDGL0404**0000707, 0000708, 0000714, 0000715, 0000736 **KUnigal** 08162-220155 **FEDGL0121**0004741, 0004743, 0006086 **Laxmeshwara** 8487200005 **FEDGL0407**0000447, 0000905, 0000911 **Madhugiri** 8137200547 **FEDGL0393**0001075, 0001100 **Malebennur** 08192-299566 **FEDGL0062**0007926, 0007947, 0007950, 0007963, 0007964, 0009258, 0009290, 0009879, 0009189, 0009717, 0009719, 0009727, 0009755 **MANDYA** 08232-239585 **FEDGL0163**0006391, 0006394 **Mundargi** 08371-295011 **FEDGL0064**0004967, 0004995 **Nagarbhavi** 8023356022 **FEDGL0031**0004498, 0004780, **FEDDS0031**0000075 **NANJANGODE** 08221 223326 **FEDGL0160**0011374, 0011398, 0011412 **Pavagada** 08136-295608 **FEDGL0377**0002929, 0002937, 0002968, 0002972, 0002974 **Periapatna** 08223-297589 **FEDGL0044**0005207, 0006800, 0006799 **RAJAJI NAGAR** 080 41902910 **FEDGL0004**0003208, 0003610 **Ramamurthy Nagar** 8041225616 **FEDDS0035**0000005 **RAMANAGARA** 080-27275627 **FEDGL0180**0016639, 0016667, 0016691, 0016701, 0016717, 0016726, 0016731, 0016734, 0016747, 0019127 **RAMASWAMY CIRCLE** 8214253754 **FEDGL0173**0005781, 0006379 **RANEBENNUR** 08373-297397 **FEDGL0232**0007666, 0007672, 0007674, 0007689, 0007692 **SHIMOGA** 081-23115765 **FEDGL0183**0008414, 0008430, 0008442, 0008443, 0008457 **Sira** 08135-295620 **FEDGL0376**0002525, 0002562, 0002564, 0002566, 0002582 **SIRSI** 08384-223365 **FEDGL0193**0005639, 0005647, 0005649, 0005650, 0005657, 0005659 **Tarikere** 08261-200233 **FEDGL0415**0000550, 0001357, 0001373 **Tiptur** 8134252402 **FEDGL0047**0006528, 0006568, 0006575, 0007753 **Turuvekere** 8139295735 **FEDGL0386**0001653, 0001668, 0001669 **Yeshwantpur** 8041225684 **FEDGL0034**0002796, 0003858, 0003857, 0003866, 0003865

Change in Venue or Date, if any will be displayed on our Website www.fedfina.com. All bidders participating will be intimated subsequently with respect to acceptance or rejection of bids submitted by them. Customer who want to release their ornaments shall visit at the base branch wherein the ornaments were pledged by the customer or contact at the number mentioned above on/or before 08-03-2023 subject to the terms and condition applicable.

Auction will be conducted at respective branches, in case the auction does not get completed on the given date due to any reasons, the auction in respect thereto shall be conducted on subsequent working days at district level branch after displaying the details on our Website. No further communication shall be issued in this regard.

Dated : 27-02-2023 **For, sd/- Authorised Signatory**
Place : Karnataka **Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.,**

QuoteExpress **IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE** › NELSON MANDELA

₹2,313 cr have been withdrawn by foreign investors on the Indian equity markets during February 1-24

Higher pension under EPS not an attractive proposition

Pension under EPS depends on average 5-yr salary before retirement and service period rather than on the amount contributed towards the scheme

MONIKA YADAV

THE employees' provident fund organisation (EPFO) recently issued a circular, as per which its members as of September 01, 2014, would now be able to choose higher pension on the basis of their actual basic pay. The deadline to apply for higher pension under the employee pension scheme (EPS) is March 03. Earlier, there was a maximum ceiling of ₹15,000 for calculating per month pensionable salary, but now the members can apply for 8.33% of their actual salary under EPS.

The main benefit of opting for higher pension is that the members will have a higher pension corpus at the time of their retirement which will ensure steady and larger income throughout their golden years.

However, the decision to go for higher pension entirely depends upon the current financial situation of the person, if he or she has other sources of income or not. One should do the cost and benefit analysis carefully before applying for EPS.

Now and then

Currently, the employer and employee both contribute 12% of their basic salary and dearness allowance to their employee provident fund account. It is to be noted that the 8.33% of the employer's contribution goes to the EPS, while the remaining goes to EPF. However, this 8.33 % was earlier capped at ₹15,000 monthly pensionable salary irrespective of the amount of salary one is drawing.

According to the EPFO circular issued on 20 February 2023, employees and employers who did not exercise the joint option in the previous window while being EPS members, and employees who were members before 1 September 2014, and continued to be a member on or after that date can apply for the joint option scheme to the concerned regional office. If an employee at the time of joining the EPF scheme had a basic salary exceeding ₹15,000 per month, they cannot join the scheme.

One should be aware of the fact that the EPFO circular is not saying anything about those who were members of EPS on or after 1 September 2014.

No guarantee of higher pension

Experts say that the higher contribution doesn't guarantee a higher pension. The monthly pension would depend on a number of factors like the number of years of service and the average salary earned in the last 60 months.

Note the pension amount under EPS is calculated as (Pensionable Salary * Service Period)/70. "It's an uncertain environment because the recent EPFO circular is irrevocable. EPS pension is not inflation-indexed, so one may not get enough pension for survival. Things can change tomorrow. EPFO doesn't have budgetary support either. One should have EPF corpus rather than going for higher pension under EPS," opined Jitendra P Solanki, certified financial planner.

"Also, EPFO can amend the act later, like they did this amendment. So, next time, they can say that it would not be the last 60 months but the last ten years of service calculation, so that may reduce your pension. Because of this uncertainty, it is going to be difficult to rely on this. Also, you may lose EPF corpus, which otherwise will be higher and get better returns," added Solanki.

If one opts for higher pension under EPS, the same will be applicable from 1 September 2014, which would necessitate that some amount from your EPF corpus will go to EPS to fill the gap in contribution over the years.

"Our view is that EPFO holders will need to consider carefully whether or not they should do so, as access to the principal moved to the EPS will not be available and the monies can be used only as a pension during their lifetime and their spouse getting access to 50% after their lifetime," says Vishal Dhawan, chief executive officer and founder of the Plan Ahead Wealth Advisors said.

Dhawan feels that one should consider this option only if their other assets are sufficient to support their retirement needs, health care goals and other financial goals even without access to this principal, after adjusting for inflation.

Experts say that instead of transferring the amount from the EPF corpus to EPS account, one could instead use some amount from EPF to buy an annuity plan later for steady income after retirement.

BASICS OF EPS

- 8.33% of the employer contribution to EPF goes towards EPS
- Employer contribution is calculated based on the actual salary (Basic+DA) if the one became member of EPFO before 1 Sep 2014
- EPS contribution can be up to a max of ₹1,250 per month for those who became a member of EPF on or after 1 Sep 2014
- The contribution towards EPS do not earn any interest
- Pension under EPS = (Pensionable Salary * Service Period)/70
- Pensionable Salary here is your average salary for the preceding 60 months

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

NEED PROPER ANALYSIS

The decision to go for higher pension entirely depends upon the current financial situation of the person, if he or she has other sources of income or not. One should do the cost and benefit analysis carefully before applying for EPS. Currently, the employer and employee both contribute 12% of their basic salary and dearness allowance to their employee provident fund account. About 8.33% of the employer's contribution goes to the EPS.

MONEY MATTERS

LESSONS FROM WARREN BUFFETT'S LATEST LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

WARREN Buffett, the legendary American investor, strikes a chord whenever he writes to shareholders. If you are familiar with the world of investing, you probably know about the pearls of wisdom he puts out every year in February in his annual letter to shareholders. This year he looks back at his long investment journey and discusses the highs and lows.

In a few words, Buffett can summarise investing for you. For example, he has a way of explaining how a few suitable investments can make up for several wrong ones you make. 'The weeds wither away in significance as the flowers bloom," he says in his letter. The idea is to buy quality stocks and stay invested long to see the investment grow. He highlights the importance of starting early and continuing to do so as long as possible.

As an investor, you often wait for the right time to buy or sell. However, Buffett has a different line of thought. He says that stocks often trade at truly foolish high and low prices. Their prices are never justified at current levels. One has to wait for the opportune time to buy publicly-listed companies at a wonderful price. He demonstrated that in 2008 when he bought into some top-rung US banks soon after the global financial crisis.

Buffett gave two examples of investing in quality businesses and holding on to them. In 1994, Berkshire bought Coca-Cola shares for $1.3 billion. In the same year, Berkshire received a cash dividend of $75 million. By 2022, the dividend on the investment was $704 million. You can imagine that holding on to a growing business can give you rich dividends. Another $1.3 billion investment in American Express in 1995 brought an annual dividend of $302 million in 2022. The current market value of Berkshire's $ 1.3 billion investment in Coca-Cola and Amex is $25 billion for each of those companies.

The letter also puts out a few thoughts of him and Charlie Munger, his partner at Berkshire Hathaway.

For example, he says, 'The world is full of foolish gamblers. They will not do as well as a patient investor.' A few months back, Nithin Kamath, the founder of Zerodha, the biggest stockbroking company, tweeted that barely 1% of traders generated a return of over 7% through buying and selling shares. That data about Indian securities markets vindicated the statement. Day trading or buying or selling shares within the exact settlement is a zero-sum game. It cannot be your only source of income.

SOURAV ROY

The other pearl of wisdom in the letter is about financial goals. Buffett and Munger have very different ways of explaining that. They said in the letter, 'Early on, write your desired obituary and then behave accordingly.' It needs to say those things you wish to do in life. You cannot stray from fundamental goals in your life. These goals are supposed to guide your investing too.

Warren Buffett is a name that personifies knowledge and wisdom. In the holy land of investments, Buffett is the most revered priest. His letters to shareholders are like a guidebook to your investment journey. Over the years, he has discussed his views on multiple asset classes like equities, gold, or fixed income. He has also spoken about fortifying the balance sheet to make the business impregnable. You may agree or disagree. With knowledge, you get an advantage in the market. You must keep learning if you want to be a great investor, he argues. 'When the world changes, you must change,' he said in the letter. Buffett gave an example of apprehensions while investing in railroad stocks. He has also refrained from buying into technology companies and practically missed out on the tech revolution. Berkshire acquired a stake in Apple, the most valuable company, a few years ago. That remains his company's top holding. It has multiplied several times and gives a dividend that dwarfs every other investment.

There are no shortcuts or easy ways to wealth. Knowledge and patience can help you get there at the right time.

MONEY-WISE

CLIMBING THE RETIREMENT MOUNTAIN

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM
writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

PART-01

IT was in 1962 that John Kennedy gave a call to NASA to put a man on the moon, however, they actually did it only in 1968. Why did it take them so long?

Well only in 1968 were they sure of knowing how to bring him back to the earth.

Accumulating money for one's retirement is a different process, and knowing how to withdraw is a different skill altogether.

When you climb a mountain – there are 2 parts to it. One is the climb up – and one is the climb down after reaching up safely.

How do you climb a mountain? Or go on a difficult trek? Maybe with a group of friends or alone?

Well climbing the Retirement Mountain is somewhat similar to climbing a mountain….How do we start?

Ideally you should start as soon as you get a job! Well immaterial of when you start, here are the steps:

- The Internal feeling that you should go on that journey! Only when you really feel that you should go on that journey will you take the necessary steps willingly. So ask yourself "are you ready for the journey?" Are you doing it because someone is forcing you to do it? If yes, the journey is likely to be tough and worthy of being given up.
- You will need a plan! Once you decide that you have to climb the goal mountain (in our case the retirement mountain) you will need a plan, and the strength and energy to execute the plan! When you open your PPF account, buy a pension plan, buy 'Retire Rich: Invest ₹40 a day', you have taken your first step towards retirement. It is nice if you have a plan – in your head at least. Ideally, if you write it down, it will be a great thing to do!

- Concentrate! If you are at the bottom of a mountain, you will see many paths. You must understand the power of concentration.
- Use your plan, power of concentration, focus and create a route map. You need to know the distance, the altitude, the temperature (is it Ladakh, Kodaikanal or the Sahyadri mountains), and your own strength. You will realise that strength and concentration are very important for you to function! You need to know the mile-stones (net worth at each age?), the benchmarks, so that you can monitor your progress.
- The path is tough. The road is narrow. Sometimes crooked. Most times slippery. Have you trekked in the monsoons? It slips. You need to be careful. The staff (stick) is very useful in a slippery climb. So is the shoe with good grip. Do not lose focus. Your will find many opportunities to lose your way. Wander off the path, and it's easy to get lost.

The basic path is simple but narrow. Spend less than you make, save well and convert that saving to good investment! The bigger the gap between income and spending, the smarter the asset allocation, the shorter your hike.

There may be a few changes here and there, but the basic road (path) is narrow, slippery, and treacherous and will need full concentration. One miss and you can slip and fall! It's easier to reach your destination if you remain on the proven trail.

Reliance Capital lenders say they stare at ₹5,000 crore if another auction not allowed

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE lenders of Reliance Capital (Rcap) have said that sale of the corporate debtor to Torrent Investments without another round of auction would result in a loss of ₹5,000 crore to the banks.

In a submission made to the National Company Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), the banks and financial institutions have pleaded that RCap owed over ₹25,000 crore to lenders, most of which is public money. They have said that ₹13,500 crore of admitted claims belong to LIC, EPFO, provident and pension funds, and Army group insurance fund.

The NCLT has restrained the Committee of Creditors from conducting another round of auction after Torrent Investments had filed a plea on January 9, requesting the tribunal to quash the lenders' plan to hold a fresh auction for the takeover of RCap.

Lenders have moved NCLAT against the stay order of NCLT. Torrent Investments emerged as the highest bidder in the e-auction on 21 December 2022 with a bid price of ₹8,640 crore.

The lenders in their latest submission to the appellate tribunal have argued that continued stay on extended challenge mechanism will cause irreparable harm to the lenders. It has already resulted in an interest loss of over ₹275 crore in the last six weeks, with further loss of ₹45 crore per week.

The lenders have further argued in their submission to NCLAT that the stay on extended challenge mechanism has prevented the Committee of Creditors (CoC) from discovering higher value, and has put the resolution process in suspended animation.

The lenders have also argued that there is no limitation on the number of methods of challenge mechanisms adopted. "The RFRP (Request for resolution plan) sufficiently supports the power of the COC to hold multiple challenge mechanisms," they say in their submission.

The lenders have also alleged that Torrent Investment misused the exparte order of NCLT dated 3 January to rewrite its own resolution plan.

On 6 January, the company revised the upfront payment from ₹3,750 crore to ₹8,640 crore, while deliberately not making CoC a party in the NCLT.

NCLT restrained Committee of Creditors

The NCLT has restrained the Committee of Creditors from conducting another round of auction after Torrent Investments had filed a plea requesting the tribunal to quash the plan to hold a fresh auction.

Oyo seeks eviction of FHRAI's top members

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

AMIDST brewing tension between IPO-bound hospitality firm Oyo and one of India's oldest hospitality lobbying bodies FHRAI, the former recently wrote to the Ministry of Tourism and requested intervention and investigation in the running of Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Associations of India (FHRAI) and order the eviction of erring executive committee members.

The representation by OYO says that FHRAI's actions are detrimental to small hotel owners. It added that constant tussle and their continued malafide friction with organised players, discourages entrepreneurs from progressing and moving ahead with time and technology.

"The present governing body members of the FHRAI, are running a deleterious and malicious agenda aimed towards ruining the interest of hotel industry at large, and creating hurdles and bottlenecks for new players in the market, who are posing a stiff challenge to the self-serving agenda of certain members of the FHRAI with vested interests," said OYO.

The firm also pointed out the National Company Law Tribunal's (Principal Bench in New Delhi) recently issued an order which directed the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) to examine the affairs of the FHRAI and ensure that it complies with the provisions of the Companies Act.

When contacted, Pradeep Shetty, President of, Hotel and Restaurant Association of Western India (HRAWI) & Executive Committee Member of FHRAI said that a making entity (Oyo) with several cheating and tax evasion cases / FIR's against it is trying to point fingers at them.

"Oyo should have rather tried to address FHRAI's concerns and tried to resolve its members' complaints rather than make a futile attempt at intimidating/threatening the Hotel Industry apex body executive committee members for having brought Oyo's unethical business conduct to the notice of various authorities and exposed its malpractices," said Shetty.

Jaison Chacko, Secretary General, FHRAI said, "Based on enormous number of complaints received from our members about large scale breach of contracts, default of payments, unilateral cancellation of agreements and other fraudulent activities committed by Oyo, FHRAI approached appropriate authorities including the CCI, NCLT, NCLAT, SEBI and Government of India against Oyo's oppressive and unethical business practices."

Chacko added, "Whatever actions FHRAI took were for the benefit of its members and were also well within the provisions of law. FHRAI's position has been vindicated by the recent orders of CCI, NCLAT and SEBI. It would have been desirable if Oyo would have tried to counter FHRAI's allegations and tried to clear the pending dues of hundreds of hotel partners."

Oyo and FHRAI have been at loggerheads for quite some time now. In November, the FHRAI had written to SEBI to stop OYO from launching its IPO in the wake of a penalty imposed by the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

In October this year, CCI slapped penalties totalling more than ₹ 392 crore on online travel firms MakeMyTrip, Goibibo, and OYO for indulging in unfair business practices. CCI had launched its investigation after a complaint by the FHRAI.

Medvedev halts Murray heroics to take Qatar title

Daniil Medvedev beat fellow former World No 1 Andy Murray 6-4, 6-4 in the Qatar Open final on Saturday to win his second ATP title in a week. The 27-year-old, who won in Rotterdam last Sunday, convincingly ended his 35-year-old opponent's comeback heroics. Meanwhile, Barbora Krejcikova defeated Iga Swiatek 6-4, 6-2 to claim the Dubai WTA title on Saturday.

Australia do what they always do as they seize the moment, beat hosts SA to capture sixth T20 World Cup

MOONEY HEIST: AUSSIES HIT SIX

Australian players rejoice after winning the final on Sunday | AFP

GOMESH S
Express @ Women's T20 World Cup
CAPE TOWN

Brief scores: Australia 156/6 in 20 ovs (Mooney 74 n.o; Ismail 2/26) bt South Africa 137/6 in 20 ovs (Wolvaardt 61).

IN the end, it was a familiar script. A two-week-long movie where all the other countries battled against one another before one of them lost to Australia in the final. It has been the same for five years now; two T20 World Cups, an ODI World Cup, and a Commonwealth Games gold in the period. Sunday at Newlands was no different as Australia handed the hosts, South Africa, a heartbreak to win their sixth T20 World Cup title; their third in a row, to complete their second hat-trick in the history of the tournament.

While the climax was well known, it is the story narrative, the ebbs and flows, the characters and the twists that make a movie interesting. This movie — the 2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup — did not disappoint on that front. From starting off with an upset to providing several enthralling moments through the league stage before history was made on Friday with South Africa qualifying for a senior World Cup final for the very first time, it had all the ingredients.

In fact, despite the familiar climax, with Meg Lanning's Australia beating South Africa by 19 runs in the final, that is what made this tournament what it was. To have a record crowd for any women's sporting event that has happened in South Africa is all the ICC could have asked for after the dream MCG final three years ago.

If the tournament had an almost perfect final off the field, the on-field action on Sunday was no less. Having been asked to field by Lanning, the South African bowling attack gave it their all. With the crowd, their families, and fans cheering on them on every delivery, Shabnim Ismail, Marizanne Kapp, and Ayabonga Khaka were steaming in. So much that Australia were under the pump. After seven overs, they were only 47/1 and had lost Alyssa Healy. South Africa were on top with an atmosphere that was nothing short of surreal.

Now, this is where Australia is different from other sides. They had seen what happened in the semifinal against India. When Lanning and Mooney were in the middle, India never lost control. Having almost lost the match, they had course-corrected in the final. In came Ashleigh Gardner at No 3, who took on the Proteas bowlers. She smashed back-to-back sixes off De Klerk to gain momentum. When Gardner got out for a 21-ball 29, Australia doubled down by sending in Grace Harris. While it might not have reaped fruit, they knew what they needed and acted accordingly. Mooney, as she did in the 2020 final, put her foot down in the latter part of the innings, smashing an unbeaten 53-ball 74. Australia finished with 156/6.

This is something Lanning had spoken about on Saturday. She made it clear that they know there will be phases where South Africa would dominate. Their game plan was to wait for their moment and when it comes, they will pounce on it. They did that against India and continued the same, a bit more efficiently, in the final as well. While the total wasn't too big for South Africa, they missed the trick by not scoring enough in the powerplay. To score just 22 runs in the first six overs while chasing 157 was always going to catch up with them. Despite the valiant effort from Laura Wolvaardt (61) and Chloe Tryon (25), they fell short in the end as Australia lifted their sixth T20 World Cup title.

It was a heartbreak for the South African team — some of them have waited more than a decade to play in a final — and the hundreds of thousands of fans who were either at the stadium or watching the match in their homes. But there is hope. What happened on Sunday evening in Cape Town has never happened before in the history of South African cricket. That the entire stadium gave them a standing ovation even as De Klerk and Sinalo Jafta were on their knees after the final delivery was bowled is proof. Despite the heartbreak, Sune Luus led the squad as they did a lap of honour to thank the fans. "To play to this crowd with so many people watching and supporting, we never imagined. I think my wish is just to keep on growing. We have set the platform today and throughout the tournament. I think we can't go backward, we just need to keep growing women's sport, keep knocking on the door," said Luus after the match.

Indeed, not just for South Africa, but women's cricket. What the Proteas women achieved in this tournament is what made this T20 World Cup a blockbuster hit.

Player of the Match: BETH MOONEY
Player of the Tournament: ASHLEIGH GARDNER — 110 runs, 10 wkts

Australia's Beth Mooney plays a shot during the Women's T20 World Cup final against South Africa in Cape Town on Sunday. Mooney hit unbeaten 53-ball 74 | AP

Fan-tastic: Crowd make the right noises to make history

GOMESH S @Cape Town

THE pacer is at the top of the run-up. The crowd is using the clap banners uniformly, beating on the hoardings and using their hands to build up the noise. As the fast bowler runs in, the noise only grows and peaks when the ball leaves the bowler's hand. The next reaction would be an "Oooooh" with a collective sigh or a "Yesssssss" with a roar that engulfs the stadium. If you were hearing it on the radio, you would think that it was the first hour of a Boxing Day Ashes Test at Melbourne Cricket Ground with Pat Cummins running in. Except it isn't.

The stadium is Newlands. The bowler is Shabnim Ismail. It is the final of the 2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup. With 13,860 tickets issued (12,782 attended), South Africa turned up to fill the stadium at the foot of Table Mountain and cheer for the hosts. On Sunday, every ball is an event. The build-up to every ball is the same — whether it is Ismail, Marizanne Kapp, Chloe Tryon, Ayabonga Khaka, Nadine de Klerk, or Nonkululeko Mlaba. Their families are in the stands and so are some of the players whom they shared the dressing room with — Trisha Chetty and Mignon du Preez.

Irrespective of the action that was unfolding on the field, it was a historic day for South African cricket. As soon as the team beat England in the semi-final, over 9,500 tickets were sold on Friday night. People were lining up at the booking counters from 6.00 AM on Saturday. It was the first time their cricket team was playing in a World Cup final and they all wanted to be a part of it. To be able to say, "I was there when it happened". What makes it all even more incredible is the fact that the crowd that turned up on Sunday at Newlands is quite possibly the highest for any women's sporting event in the country, leave alone a cricket match. For the Proteas women, it is something they have never experienced anything remotely close to this — home or abroad. After every wicket, after every stop on the boundary line, after every fielding effort, after every ball, they were cheered on.

After the 86,174 crowd attendance at the MCG three years ago, the women's game was pulled back a few years because of the pandemic. On Sunday, it was healthy, the sold out signs on the counters a reflection of the popularity of the event. The anthem for this year's World Cup was Turn It Up. The fans certainly turned up and turned it up a notch. Irrespective of the result, it is only going to be better from here on.

South Africa fans make their presence felt during the final on Sunday | GOMESH S

Purcell makes it two titles two weeks

ENS @Bengaluru

AUSTRALIA'S Max Purcell made it two Challenger titles in as many weeks. After winning the Chennai Challenger last weekend, he beat compatriot James Duckworth in three tight sets to win the Bengaluru Challenger on Sunday night. He lost the first set to the second seed but came back to win 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (5).

The win means the World No. 155, who won the Wimbledon doubles title last year, is projected to rise to 116. It's not a surprise considering he has made it his goal to become a top 100 player this year. And while he may not have the biggest weapon — serve — to duke it out, he more than makes up for it with intangibles like fighting spirit and chasing down lost causes. He has built his game around being a counter-puncher who like to use his forehand passing shots when opportunities presents itself. He's also not shy of getting his hands dirty like this tournament showed. Out of the five matches he won, four went the distance.

EXPRESS READ

Sarfaraz out of ROI team for Irani Cup

KOLKATA: Prolific Mumbai batter Sarfaraz Khan has sustained a left index finger injury at the Delhi Capitals camp and has been ruled out of the Irani Cup, in which he was to represent Rest of India. Sarfaraz skipped the practice match at Eden Gardens on Sunday. The Irani Cup will start in Gwalior in two days' time.

NZ dig deep on Day 3 after following on

WELLINGTON: New Zealand dug in with the bat on Sunday to set up an absorbing last two days of the second Test against England. They reached 202-3 in their second innings at stumps on day three, closing within 24 runs of the tourists.

Brief scores: England 435/8 decl vs New Zealand 209 and (f/o) 202/3 in 83 ovs (Latham 83, Conway 61; Leach 2/59).

Spurs pile more misery on struggling Chelsea

AFP @London

TOTTENHAM heaped more pressure on under-fire Chelsea manager Graham Potter as goals from Oliver Skipp and Harry Kane earned Spurs a 2-0 win on Sunday.

Victory consolidates Tottenham's place in the Premier League top four as they opened up a four-point lead over fifth-placed Newcastle, although the Magpies have two games in hand. Chelsea remain 10th with their chances of Champions League football next season now seemingly dependent on an unlikely run to win the European Cup for a third time.

Despite splashing over $600 million on new players this season, Potter's men have now won just twice in 15 games in all competitions. The former Brighton boss spoke this week of the mental toll that run has taken as he has had to deal with abuse from supporters aimed at his family. Chelsea's new owners have remained steadfast in their support of Potter. But patience must be wearing thin and the Blues chairman and co-owner Todd Boehly was in attendance to watch another toothless display from his club at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. Chelsea have scored only one goal in their last six games.

Liverpool held by Crystal Palace

Liverpool's hopes of a top-four finish were dealt another blow by a 0-0 draw at struggling Crystal Palace on Saturday. A point edges Jurgen Klopp's men up to seventh, but they are still nine points adrift of fourth-placed Tottenham.

MAJOR VICTORY

Man United's Casemiro (18) celebrates after scoring the opening goal during the League Cup final against Newcastle United at Wembley Stadium in London on Sunday. United won 2-0 to pocket a major trophy for the first time since 2017 | AP

TEAM WATCH AHEAD OF INDORE TEST

With the next Test on the horizon, a look at the issues and what the teams have been upto in the break. A look...

NEW CAPTAIN, NEW PLAYERS FOR VISITORS

With Pat Cummins out and Steve Smith to skipper, it's all change for Australia. They will also likely play both Cameron Green and Mitchell Starc in place of David Warner and Cummins respectively.

EYE ON THE SWEEP

Ever since the second Test, a lot of ex-players have spoken about the sweep and how it's a shot loaded against the batters in these conditions. Australia tried to use it as their get out of jail shot. How will they tackle it?

RAHUL CALL

Compared to Australia, the Indian team have largely had an incident-free first two Tests. But opener KL Rahul has continued to endure a difficult time so the team could take him out of the firing line. If that's the case, there could be a recall for Shubman Gill.

REST, RECHARGED, READY TO GO With the long gap in between Tests, both teams gave their players a few days off. Some of them, like R Ashwin, kept himself busy by the TNPL auctions while others like Steve Smith had a short holiday. It's now time to get going again.

THE NEXT TEST IN INDORE IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON MARCH 1.

The medal winners from New Delhi Marathon on Sunday

Man Singh's best for top prize

AGENCIES @New Delhi

MAN SINGH ran his personal best to clinch the men's title in an extremely competitive race while Jyoti Gawate defended the gold she won last time in the New Delhi Marathon here. Singh clocked 2:14:13s to shave off more than two-and-a-half minutes from his earlier personal best of 2:16:58. Belliappa AB and Karthik Kumar took the silver and bronze respectively, clocking 2:14:15 and 2:14:19 to complete the 42.195km course. All the medallists breached Asian Games entry standard of 2 hours and 15 minutes set by AFI. But that does not guarantee a place in the Indian team for Asiad.

FORMULA ONE

Bad news for Verstappen's F1 rivals as Red Bull looks better

JEROME PUGMIRE

THE bad news for Max Verstappen's rivals heading into the Formula One season is that Red Bull's car could even be better. That's saying something considering Verstappen won a record 15 races last year on his way to a second straight world title. But Verstappen topped the first day of F1 testing at the Sakhir circuit in Bahrain and teammate Sergio Perez led the last on Saturday.

It's scary to think that Red Bull could head into next weekend's season-opening race, held on the same circuit, with none of the reliability woes that saw Verstappen fail to finish two of the first three races in 2022. Even despite that setback, he crushed everyone.

Perez & Verstappen (R) were among toppers during testing in Bahrain

"The car is working really well, just going through a lot of things we wanted to try. It's very interesting what we've been trying, so very positive days for me," Verstappen said. "Overall I think it's definitely an improvement to last year." Perez echoed that, saying Red Bull will start "much stronger than we did last year."

Charles Leclerc won two of the first three races last season before Ferrari faded badly. He says the car feels good yet modifications are still needed. "I expect us to be a bit quicker on the straights, maybe struggling a bit more in the corners," the 25-year-old from Monaco said. "I can say we are still working quite a bit on finding the sweet spot in terms of set up."

Ferrari was third and fourth in the first test; sixth-best in the second, and then fourth and fifth on Saturday. Seven-time F1 champion Lewis Hamilton finished second Saturday, but there's room to improve. At least the ground effect — known as porpoising — which hindered the team so much in 2022 seems to have been eradicated. "It's nice to drive without the bouncing for once," Hamilton said. "But there are still some underlying things we're working through."

F1 race director Niels Wittich is confident bouncing has been fully resolved. *AP*

TEST RESULTS (TOP FOUR)

Saturday	Friday	Thursday
1. Sergio Perez (Red Bull) 1:30.305 (133 laps) 2. Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) 1:30.664 (65) 3. Valtteri Bottas (Alfa Romeo) 1:30.827 (131) 4. Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) 1:31.024 (67)	1. Zhou Guanyu (Alfa Romeo) 1:31.610 (132 laps), 2. Max Verstappen (Red Bull) 1:31.650 (47), 3. Fernando Alonso (Aston Martin) 1:32.205 (130), 4. Nyck De Vries (AlphaTauri) 1:32.222 (74)(68).	1. Verstappen (Red Bull) 1:32.837 (157 laps), 2. Alonso (Aston Martin) 1:32.866 (60), 3. Sainz (Ferrari) 1:33.253 (72), 4. Leclerc (Ferrari) 1:33.267 (64)

**The new season kicks off this weekend at Bahrain with qualifiers and main race set to be held on Saturday and Sunday, respectively.*

EXFILE • ARCHITECTURE

BRAZILIAN FAVELA 'SHACK' WINS HOUSE-OF-YEAR AWARD

At first glance, it is a house like dozens of others in the crowded favelas (slum) of Brazil. But this seemingly modest dwelling of 66 square metres, with its exposed brick walls, has just been recognized as the "house of the year" in an international architecture competition

OWNER OF THE HOUSE:
KDU DOS ANJOS

The house honoured by specialised website ArchDaily belongs to Kdu dos Anjos, a 32-year-old artist living in the bustling Aglomerado da Serra favela, at the bottom of a hill on the edge of the southeastern city of Belo Horizonte

UNDERDOG TAKING THE PRIZE

The two-story structure defeated some more-imposing contest entries from India, Mexico, Vietnam and Germany

COSTING AROUND $29,000

The entire job cost $29,000, and the investment paid off as the architecture prize brought international recognition

Aerial view taken on February 24, 2023, showing the house of Brazilian musical artist Kdu dos Anjos which was designated "Building of the Year 2023" by the specialised reference site ArchDaily, in Aglomerado da Serra, a favela complex on the outskirts of Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais State, Brazil. | AFP

MAKING THE MOST OF MATERIALS

"The design of the house represents a constructive model that uses common materials in the slums, with an adequate implementation and attention to lighting and ventilation, resulting in a space with great environmental quality," ArchDaily wrote

SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE

For dos Anjos, the prize is important. "I know my house isn't the most chic..., but it's a well-built shack," he said

STURDIER AND ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY

From the outside the house resembles its neighbours, but it incorporates several features that make it both sturdier and more respectful of the environment, particularly in its "attention to lighting and ventilation," said architect Fernando Maculan, the project leader

LEVANTE ARCHITECTURE COLLECTIVE

The design was the work of the Levante architecture collective, which does pro-bono or low-cost work in the favelas

FEATURES OF THE HOUSE: The house, built on a small lot dos Anjos purchased in 2017, is well-ventilated and enjoys abundant natural light; it features horizontal casement windows and a large terrace

PROBLEMS AT WORK

"The masons were angry because they thought laying bricks this way was very time-consuming," Maculan said.

"And we had a lot of trouble getting the materials up the stairs —it's the last house on the alley, and I had to pay the workers who carried it a lot," he said. The narrow, twisting roads in the favela are difficult for vehicles to navigate

COMPLETED IN EIGHT MONTHS

The project took eight months—and a lot of work

IMPROVING INSULATION

One apparent difference with nearby houses is in the arrangement of the bricks, which are laid horizontally—not vertically—and in staggered rows, which adds solidity and improves insulation

Aerial picture of Aglomerado da Serra, a favela complex on the outskirts of Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais State, Brazil, where the house of Brazilian musical artist Kdu dos Anjos is located | AFP

Removal of toxic waste from rail crash halted

Amid contamination fears, US's environmental authorities have temporarily ordered to pause shipment of waste

ENVIRONMENT

EAST PALESTINE: Federal environmental authorities have ordered a temporary halt in the shipment of contaminated waste from the site of a fiery train derailment earlier this month in eastern Ohio amid fears of harm from hazardous materials.

Region 5 administrator Debra Shore of the Environmental Protection Agency said on Saturday the agency ordered the rail company Norfolk Southern to "pause" shipments from the site of the February 3 derailment in East Palestine but vowed that removal of the material would resume "very soon." "Everyone wants this contamination gone from the community. They don't want the worry, and they don't want the smell, and we owe it to the people of East Palestine to move it out of the community as quickly as possible," Shore said.

Until Friday, Shore said, the rail company had been solely responsible for the disposal of the waste and supplied Ohio environmental officials with a list of selected and utilised disposal sites. Going forward, disposal plans including locations and transportation routes for contaminated waste will be subject to EPA review and approval, she said. "EPA will ensure that all waste is disposed of in a safe and lawful manner at EPA-certified facilities to prevent further release of hazardous substances and impacts to communities," Shore said.

She said officials had heard concerns from residents and others in a number of states and were reviewing "the transport of some of this waste over long distances and finding the appropriate permitted and certified sites to take the waste."

The Ohio governor's office said on Saturday night that of the twenty truckloads of hazardous solid waste hauled away, 15 truckloads of contaminated soil was disposed of at a Michigan hazardous waste treatment and disposal facility while five truckloads had been returned to East Palestine.

Liquid waste already trucked out of East Palestine would be disposed of at a licensed hazardous waste treatment and disposal facility in Texas, but that facility would not accept more liquid waste, the Ohio governor's office said.

"Currently, about 102,000 gallons of liquid waste and 4,500 cubic yards of solid waste remain in storage on site in East Palestine, not including the five truckloads returned to the village," the governor's office said. "Additional solid and liquid wastes are being generated as the cleanup progresses."

No one was injured when 38 Norfolk Southern cars derailed on the outskirts of town, but as fears grew about a potential explosion due to hazardous chemicals in five of the rail cars, officials evacuated the area.

Iraq's main rivers drying up

CRISIS

Iraq's Tigris and Euphrates rivers have witnessed a sharp decrease in their levels in the south of the country, officials said on Sunday, pledging to take urgent measures to ease water shortages. In Nasiriyah, the river bed of the mighty Euphrates dry in patches. The water ministry blamed the situation in some southern provinces on "the low quantity of water reaching Iraq from neighbouring Turkey". "This has triggered a sharp drop in the country's water reserves," it said. The Tigris and the Euphrates both have their source in Turkey, and authorities in Iraq have accused Ankara of withholding water in dams that choke the rivers.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

Bengaluru Express

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
Mail us: bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

27•02•2023
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Earthquake in Chile

A 8.8-magnitude earthquake rocked Chile in 2010 killing people, toppling buildings and triggering a tsunami threatening the Pacific rim of fire

THE EPICENTRE

The epicentre was located some 325 km southwest of the Chilean capital of Santiago, and the focus occurred at a depth of about 35 km below the surface of the Pacific Ocean

THE CATALYST

The earthquake was felt as far away as São Paolo, Brazil, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. A 2014 study contended that water pressure built up between the two plates had been the catalyst

THE EFFECT

A NASA computer model ascertained that the powerful force of the subducting plate had shifted Earth's axis sufficiently to shorten the day by more than a microsecond

Check out the events happening in the city

PG 2

BOWLED OVER

Move over football, here comes cricket! German Chancellor Olaf Scholz got a glimpse of India's most popular sport when he visited the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) where he interacted with the Royal Challengers Bangalore team. "About three weeks ago, the Consulate contacted us, telling us that the Chancellor wanted to know more about cricket and watch a practice session. We made a request to RCB since this is their home ground," said BK Sampath Kumar, vice-president, KSCA. Also seen, Shubhendu Ghosh, CEO of the Cricket Association. | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Singer-songwriter CKay, known for his internationally-acclaimed single *Love Nwantiti*, performed in the city. In conversation with *CE*, he speaks about his India debut, Bollywood's influence on his music and the role India plays in his recent success

FROM NIGERIA WITH LOVE

CKay performing at the Vh1 Supersonic Music festival on Friday ((left): Audience at the concert

DESE GOWDA

IT was late 2020. At the height of the pandemic. Much of the world had started to openly embrace work from home, while social media platforms like TikTok and Instagram recorded unprecedented traffic as social interactions increasingly turned digital. Meanwhile, digital creators exploded in popularity, particularly on TikTok. Small musicians, previously unheard of, suddenly found themselves in the spotlight.

One such musician, from a small town in Nigeria, was Chukwuka Ekweani. Better known as CKay, Ekweani's 2019 song *Love Nwantiti*, became an internet sensation after its re-release as single in 2020, topping music charts across the world. All this due to social media. Over the weekend, at the Vh1 Supersonic music festival in Bhartiya City, Ekweani made his India debut, performing alongside the likes of English pop star Anne Marie, rapper HanuMankind among others.

Ekweani credits much of his success to Indian audiences, and shares that the support from fans in the country has been 'crazy'. "I feel like India has been a huge part of my success story, with a lot of support for my music coming from this country. From Bollywood actors using my song for reels to models on TikTok popularising my music...it's been crazy. It is so amazing that I'm finally here," he says, adding that he was astonished at the level of popularity that *Love Nwantiti* achieved in the country.

"It's amazing how something I created back in Lagos, Nigeria is connecting with people thousands of kilometres away and across the oceans, here in India. I didn't even have a studio back then. I made that song [*Love Nwantiti*] in my living room. Yet somehow, people relate to that song. It's a testament to how powerful music really is. Every time I think about it, I can only be grateful for the support and love that everyone has shown, especially India," the 27-year-old shares.

Ekweani grew up watching a lot of Bollywood movies, just like many in Nigeria. While he shares that his childhood experiences don't necessarily inspire his music, he concedes that Bollywood music certainly had an impact on him. "We have this channel that broadcasts Bollywood movies back home. *3 Idiots*, in particular, is really popular. Most Nigerians, especially the women, watch them heavily. So if you live in a house with women, you have to watch Bollywood. Bollywood is really interesting, because music has a strong influence on cinema, with films brimming with songs. And I grew up listening to all kinds of music in those movies. I guess that kind of played a role in shaping me to become the artiste that I am today," he shares.

> *It's amazing how something I created back home is connecting with people thousands of kilometres away and across the oceans, here in India. I didn't even have a studio back then. I made Love Nwantiti in my living room. It's a testament to the power of music*
>
> Chukwuka Ekweani, singer-songwriter

Avin Thaliath (@chef_avin), pastry chef and the director of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

GRUB HUB

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE*. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth ₹1,000 from Lavonne Cafe, Forum Shantiniketan Mall, Whitefield**

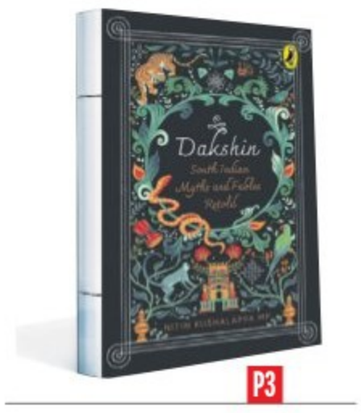
THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Shufta
2) Koat Pita 3) Churmo

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Dr Renu Agrawal
2) Shalini G
3) Sowmya Bhat

MORAL STORIES FROM THE SOUTH



P3

CITY READ

Northeastern feast in Bengaluru

The Lotus Oreintal at The Leela Bharatiya City will be hosting chef Alistair Lethorn, a celebrated Naga cuisine expert, known for his use of ingredients which highlights the cuisine. The pop-up comes in light of celebrating the rich heritage of the Naga cuisine and what it has to offer.

Japanese students visit India as part of university student-exchange programme

As part of an international student exchange programme organised between the Bangalore University and the Kanazawa University, Japan, students and faculty from the latter visited the Bangalore University's Jnana Bharati campus recently. The day started with the interaction of the students with Prof. Jayakara S M, Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, deans of various departments and syndicate members. The team also visited the Department of environmental science, where the research activities and academic excellence of the department were presented. Visits were made to the Biodiversity Conversation Park of the University.

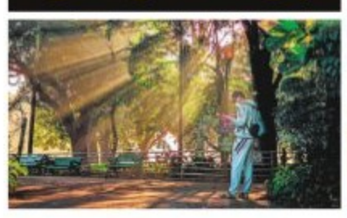
AN ONGOING ART COLLECTIVE FEATURES A BUNCH OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN IN AND AROUND THE CITY, WHICH CAPTURES THE BEAUTY OF BENGALURU

Lens on ooru

MONIKA MONALISA

THE Bhoga Nandeeshwara temple on the foothills of the Nandi Hills, or an afternoon at one of the largest lung spaces. Bengaluru's old and new buildings with the clear blue sky as the backdrop; the joy of celebrations on people's faces; or general facets of the city. These are various moods of Bengaluru that have been captured by various amateur photographers in the city. And you can witness these pictures at the ongoing Whitefield Art Collective at VR Mall. The showcase will continue till March 18.

Rightfully named Bangalore in Focus, the idea is to capture the city's various moods. The photographs are clicked by city-based photographers. Sumi Gupta, the curator of the event, says they wanted to have a segment at the art collective which showcases different facets of the city. "We wanted people to tell us what the city means to them. Bangalore In Focus encourages people to tell us how they view this city and challenges them to capture the essence of such a large city in one single frame. Everyone experiences a city as diverse as Bengaluru differently," says Gupta.



The preparation for this segment started a month in advance. "We started our call for entries a month before the festival and received 2,000+ pictures of which more than 200 were high-resolution pictures," recalls Gupta, adding the motto of the festival is to make art inclusive and available to all.

Karthik Handral, who captured an afternoon at Lalbagh Botanical Garden with sun rays falling through trees was one of the selections for the exhibition. "Lalbagh is a very significant part of the city and is one of the city's landmarks. I wanted to capture the lush greenery of it where the light does all the magic," say Handral, a regular visitor to the park.

The public art festival which is in its sixth edition has a theme of A Fine Balance, and has over 100 art works displayed. The festival commenced with the unveiling of an art car, painted by The Geechulagalu Collective, followed by wearable art, a fashion showcase by JD Institute of Fashion Technology.

BOOK NOOK

Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom

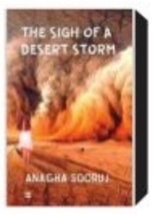
By Sanjeev Sanyal

Revolutionaries tells India's struggle for freedom story, one that is replete with swashbuckling adventure, intrigue, espionage, incredible bravery, diabolical treachery and shockingly unpredictable twists of fate.

My Life in Design

By Gauri Khan

Gauri Khan strikes the perfect balance between her sense of design and personality, and factors in the clients' brief while transforming a space into something that the user can truly call their own.



The Sigh of a Desert Storm

By Anagha Sooruj

This book depicts the turbulence in a child's mind when the war rages around her and takes away all that she has.

Looking for Inspiration

By Mamta Nainy

A unique biography that explores and celebrates the life of a poet as a curious boy.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Chai and Dost

It's a cosy little meet-up for people who just want to get to know others and have good conversations. If you want to make new friends over chai, join Chai Pe Charcha.

WHERE: Small World, Koramangala **WHEN:** Feb 27, 6pm **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Calligraphy workshop

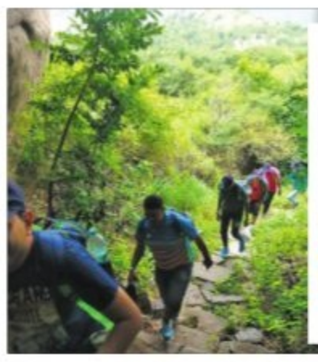
This 4-day workshop will help you master the skill of brush pen calligraphy and will also provide all the materials.

WHERE: Park West - Luxury Apartments, Binnypet
WHEN: Feb 27, 12pm
DETAILS: allevents. in

Serene camping

Embark on an unforgettable camping adventure in the foothills of Nandi Hills, which is surrounded lush greenery.

WHERE: Hangout @ Nandi, Karahalli Cross
WHEN: Feb 27, 4pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com



Monday adventures

One of Bengaluru's best hiking trails, the Krishnagiri is a 5-km trek across a spectacular lush green landscape that offers a quite unique scenic view similar to that of the Western Ghats.

WHERE: Gopalan Arcade, Mysore Road
WHEN: Feb 27, 11pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Fun Splash

Get on one of the exhilarating rides, or simply laze by the pool under the bright sun for some funtime.

WHERE: Wonderla, Mysore Road
WHEN: Feb 27, 11am
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Hero or Anti-Hero?

Witness a classic play called *Charandas Chor* which is penned by one of the legends of Indian theatre, Habib Tanveer.

WHERE: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar **WHEN:** Feb 28, 7.30pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Styling your mane

This course is designed to teach you the basics of hair care...styling, blow dry, tongs, ironing, iron curls, wax curls, etc. Learn to the art of making simple low buns or the modern messy looks.

WHERE: Zorains Studio, Amar Jyothi Layout
WHEN: Feb 27, 11am
DETAILS: 9900032855

RECREATING HISTORY

Students of Maharani Lakshmi Ammanni College dressed as famous historical figures for the 50th-year celebrations of the college | **SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA**

QUICK FIX

DRY FRUIT SNACK BARS

Contributed by **Sheeba La Fleur,** Thiruvananthapuram

INGREDIENTS

- **Sunflower seeds:** 1/2 cup
- **Almonds:** 1/2 cup
- **Rolled oats:** 2 cups
- **Dried blueberries:** 1/4 cup
- **Dried cranberries:** 1/4 cup
- **Walnuts:** 1/4 cup
- **Pumpkin seeds:** 1/2 cup
- **Cashew nuts:** 1/2 cup
- **Honey:** 1/2 cup
- **Flax seeds:** 2 tbsp
- **Dates:** 1 cup (pitted)

METHOD

- Dry roast the seeds, nuts and rolled oats separately in a pan for three-four minutes on medium flame.
- Add them to a mixing bowl and cool down together. Grind the pitted dates. Add the pitted dates, blueberry, cranberry, and honey and mix well.
- Use clean hands to combine them well. Pour the mixture into a lined baking tray, press and flatten to set into a slab, add some dried berries and press with the back of the spoon.
- Refrigerate for one hour to set the mix. Demould the slab and cut it into bars or squares. Store in an air-tight container and can be stored in the refrigerator for two weeks.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

ARDHA MATSYENDRASANA VARIATION

(HALF LORD OF FISHES POSE VARIATION HAND DOWN)

It is a popular seated variation and a beginner level pose. The spine's flexibility can improve, and with time the intelligent use of the chest, rib cage, upper back, upper abdomen, and shoulders should help students progress into more challenging twists.

STEPS

- Sit in Dandasana (Staff Pose), taking 2-3 breaths here. Relax the body and breath.
- Bend your left leg from the knee and keep it closer to the right hip joint. Bend the right leg in a way that it is placed near the left knee.
- Now, twist your spine and take the right arm, keep it closer to the hips, keep the palm on the ground.
- Keeping the left hand in the twist you can either hold the ankle or feet.
- Hold the pose for 4-5 breaths then release gently.
- Repeat the pose on the other side by folding the right leg and keeping it closer to the opposite hip and fold the left leg near the right knee, twisting the upper body.
- Hold the pose for the same duration.
- Finally, release the pose and relax in Dandasana.

BENEFITS

- Opens your chest muscles and lungs, reducing the risk of respiratory diseases.
- It helps in relieving back pain.
- It massages and stimulates the functioning of the abdominal organs.
- This also helps in managing slip-disks.
- Calms the mind and reduces stress and anxiety.
- Reduces stiffness and pain in the buttocks.
- Stimulates blood circulation and detoxifies your organs.
- It may help manage UTI symptoms.
- Improves digestion as well as elimination of the wastes.
- Getting rid of the stress will help with the better flow of prana.
- Balances the Mooladhara (root) and Manipura (navel) Chakras which will help the practitioner feel emotionally balanced.
- Keeps the reproductive organs active, releasing unwanted energy.

LIMITATIONS

People who have any back or spine injury, peptic ulcer or hernia, women during pregnancy and menstruation, avoid this.

Those who have undergone any abdominal, brain or heart surgery, avoid this.

If there is any injury or recent injuries in shoulders, neck, knees or elbows, sciatica pain, slip disc or spondylitis, avoid this pose.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

SAUDI VELLAKA (Malayalam)

Twenty-three-year-old Abhilash's dream of a Gulf visa is about to come true but a court summons for a long-pending case which throws a wrench in his plans. He must now get to the bottom of a small conflict that has snowballed into a legal fight before his dream is destroyed.

Cast: Vincy Aloshious, Sminu Sijo, Sidhartha Siva

Watch on: Sony LIV

HIT: THE SECOND CASE (Telugu)

Laidback cop Krishna Dev investigates a gruesome murder case. As KD unravels the layers of the crime, the stakes rise unbelievably high and a threat comes unusually close.

Cast: Meenakshi Chaudhary, Adivi Sesh, Tanikella Bharani

Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

COMALI (Tamil)

After emerging from an extended coma, Ravi discovers that he has lost 16 whole years of his life and he is now in his 30s. He soon finds it difficult to adapt to the changes of the modern world.

Cast: Jayam Ravi, Kajal Aggarwal, Samyuktha Hegde, Yogi Babu

Watch on: Sony LIV

LATE NIGHT TAXI (Hindi)

A Hindi drama short film that tells a story of a girl travelling all alone in a taxi at night. She soon finds that every one of her worst nightmares has come to life. Does she reach home safely?

Cast: Rohit Singh, Sakshi Goel

Watch on: Disney+ Hotstar

RAAZI (Hindi)

An Indian Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) agent, at her father's request, gets married into a family of army generals in Pakistan to pass on information to India, prior to the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, Based on Harinder Sikka's 2008 novel Calling Sehmat.

Cast: Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal

Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

OPERATION FRYDAY (Hindi)

Police informer Ghulam holds the force responsible when his brother gets killed in a gang war. As he then kick-starts his own business, he wrongfully gets involved in a series of bomb attacks.

Cast: Randeep Hooda, Suniel Shetty, Nitu Chandra

Watch on: ZEE5

DIL PASAND (Kannada)

Santhosh is all set to tie the knot with an ultra-traditional Minchu in an arranged marriage. As fate would have it, his life turns chaotic when he chances upon Aishwarya, an outgoing girl in an intoxicated state.

Cast: Darling Krishna, Sadhu Kokila, Nishvika Naidu

Watch on: Sun NXT

FOREIGN

NARVIK (English)

The eyes of the world are on Narvik, a small town in northern Norway, a source of the iron ore needed for Hitler's war machine. Through two months of fierce winter warfare, the German leader is dealt with his first defeat.

Cast: Kristine Hartgen, Kari Bremnes, Henrik Mestad

Watch on: Netflix

YOU PEOPLE (English)

The film examines contemporary family dynamics and love as it follows a young couple and their families as they navigate conflicting cultural norms, societal expectations, and generational divides.

Cast: Eddie Murphy, Hill, Julia Louis-Dreyfus

Watch on: Netflix

MANIFEST (English)

Drawing inspiration from the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, Manifest revolves around how 191 passengers from Montego Air Flight 828 attempt to reintegrate into society after being believed to be dead. But as dark truths are exposed, they become uneasy.

Cast: Melissa Roxburgh, Josh Dallas, Athena Karkanis

Watch on: Netflix

SQUID GAME (Korean, series)

A call to play children 's games for an alluring prize lures hundreds of cash-strapped competitors, but the risks are catastrophic.

Cast: Lee Jung-Jae, HoYeon Jung, Gong Yoo

Watch on: Netflix

SUBSCRIPTION

Prime Video:	₹179 per month
Zee5:	₹399 for 3 months
Disney+Hotstar:	₹199 for 3 months
Netflix:	₹149 per month

Gurudas and Amita Shenoy

CITY (HIGH) LIGHTS

RUBINATIONS
Rubi Chakravarti
Writer, actor and funny girl

I'T'S another week and sometimes I feel the entire city has the same idea at the same time! There is a spate of 'things to do' and one must pick and choose carefully. My 'funda' is simple: go where one feels comfortable (read as discerning) because, I'm too old for this bilge (to use a polite term)! My days at smiling inanely and avoiding 'social-pests' are well and truly over.

So, it was with a certain sense of excitement that I accepted an invitation to tour the Museum of Arts and Photography (MAP) on Kasturba Road. Born out of the untiring efforts of art aficionado and collector Abhishek Poddar, the museum boasts of over 60,000 pieces of art, sculpture and photos which are digitized so a viewer can choose what to see and view all the works in that category! I was blown away with some priceless pieces dating back to the 10th century. Comparable to any major art facility in the world, it hopes to bring art appreciation to the common people. It also boasts of an art library, a research centre and a conservation facility. Absolutely chuffed that namma ooru can boast of facilities like this rather than only being a pub city!

Feeling all 'artified,' my bff Alka Dev and I headed to see more art at the 'Kala for Vidya' exhibition at the Taj West End. Though it was a preview, (no hoi-polloi), most of the art was already sold! Again I am chuffed that Bengalureans love their art as much as their artisanal gin! I was really happy to bump into artist Gurudas Shenoy and his lovely wife Amita, and talking 'art' with them was exhilarating. But of course, lunch at that hotel was a must do, as was meeting up with their director of sales Arjun Pandalai. It is amazing how many generations of patrons frequent the Taj hotels. We are (now) four generations of Taj loyalists.

Bjorn Borg, Madhav Sehgal & Vijay Amritraj

Susan Fernandes's late husband, Ashok and I were childhood friends as his parents and mine were good friends too. Bangalore was a cantonment town and all of us were either armed-forces or civil service brats. When Ashok married the young, beauteous 'Suzie', the whole town was agog with excitement. Susan braved the tragic loss of the 'larger than life' Ashok and slowly but surely came into her own emerging as a pillar of resilience for her three (young adult) children and for herself. She was always an 'earth-child' deeply connected to nature and sustainability. She opened her new eclectic clothing store with all hand-spun fabrics last week, and her friends (hundreds of them!) swarmed the place as her creations flew off the hangars. I too, hung onto my stash of clothes for dear life lest they were wrested away from me. Way to go Suzie-Q!

My week ended at the Leela Palace where I was fortunate enough to witness two tennis legends Bjorn Borg and Vijay Amritraj in conversation. They were both erudite, funny and their easy camaraderie was clearly visible. The hand-picked guest list of tennis enthusiasts, the lovely poolside venue and the impeccable service with the food and bar elevated the evening to be an experientially unpararelled one. Kudos!

Giving his childhood memories the form of the written word, author Nitin Kushalappa puts the spotlight on South India's folklore in his latest book meant for all age groups

MORAL STORIES FROM THE SOUTH

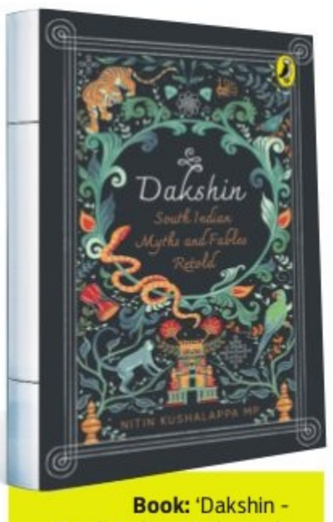
ANUSHREE MADHAVAN

IT was during his school days that the English translation of *Pattole Palame*, a compilation of folklore, released, mesmerising author Nitin Kushalappa MP. "After school, I would visit Gangaram's, take the book from the shelf, read it for a while and place it back when it was time for me to leave. I did this until I was able to collect some pocket money over several months, from the change I could spare from bus fare tickets and tea snacks. With this money, I bought the book at Gangaram's finally," he shares.

It was this and perhaps several other stories he had heard from his grandparents and relatives that made Kushalappa take a liking towards folklore. He began reading, writing and seeking more of it. A compilation of his years of living with folklores is *Dakshin - South Indian Myths and Fables Retold*. The book on moral stories has 15 retellings of regional folk tales from the southern states. There is the story of Bala Nagamma, the Moon Prince, the cat and the fly and other famous regional tales, which might be lesser-known to English readers.

Each chapter ends on a moral note. Kushalappa says that there were more than 15 stories he had written for the book and the themes ranged from love and religion to spirituality and death, which was dropped keeping in mind the audience.

Kushalappa calls himself a 'random reader' and this book was a long time in the making. With a day job as an engineer, he makes time for his passion. "I do enjoy reading, writing and studying. I did my writing work during the weekends or when I was free. I have had to make some sacrifices, and cut down on time with family and friends. My latest book brought out the child in me and with it many of my childhood memories," he shares.



Book: 'Dakshin - South Indian Myths and Fables' Retold
Publisher: Puffin Books
Pages: 236 **Price:** ₹299

Excerpts:

Can you tell us about your childhood with your grandparents, the kind of stories you listened to?
My grandfather was in the army. He told us stories about Kodagu and tales that he heard in the army. My mother and my uncles were also storytellers, and our other relatives had stories to tell too.

Both sides of my family had many books in their houses. I spent a lot of my time in these home libraries. I read comics, fiction, non-fiction and various other genres. Some of the Indian comics, especially *Amar Chitra Katha*, were based on mythology and folklore.

Q&A

At home, my parents deliberately didn't allow us to have satellite television. This was to ensure that we read books. Hence, books were what entertained us. There was only Doordarshan for us. Once in a while, when we visited friends or relatives, I remember watching television at their places.

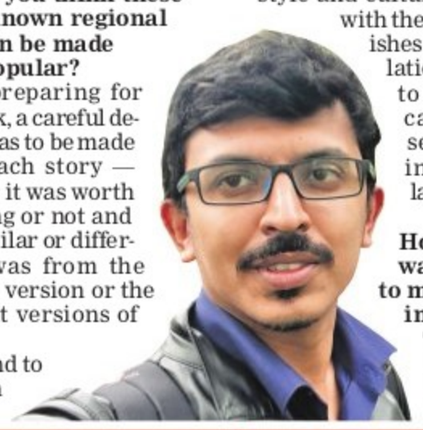
Some of our school teachers were great storytellers. I remember one primary school teacher, Mrs Leo in particular. I spent a lot of time in our school library. I began writing as a kid. I would write down stories that I heard and read. As I grew up, I somehow didn't discard these notes.

What was the idea behind *Dakshin*?
Some years ago, I was reading AK Ramanujan's books on Indian folklore. I liked the methods he used while recording and narrating the stories. I was also reading folklore from Europe, North America, Bhutan, Bihar, Marwar, Punjab and other regions, besides mythical stories and fables.

There is one particular song called *Govina Haadu*. It is a popular Kannada song which was taught to children. I learnt it in my school textbook. Nearly everybody in Karnataka knows this song. I have heard several people quote lines from this song. There is something about this song which makes people emotional or nostalgic. I had translated this song word by word, and kept it aside for some years. I was also working on my own retellings of the translated songs in *Pattole Palame*, a compilation of folk songs. I tried searching for different versions in different villages of Kodagu, and in other books.

A few years ago, my book agent Suhail Mathur of *The Bookbakers* and I were chatting online about potential book projects. There was a requirement to write a book of regional folklore. I was supposed to choose a region or a state. My first choice was to write either on Kodagu or Karnataka. But I found that there was not much material on south Indian folklore itself. So I finally decided to write on folklore from south India and the Deccan. Suhail thought it was a good idea and encouraged me to continue working on this. That is when I grew more focussed.

How do you think these lesser-known regional tales can be made more popular?
While preparing for this book, a careful decision was to be made about each story — whether it was worth including or not and how similar or different it was from the original version or the different versions of the tale.



We tend to learn more of English and less of our own mother tongues. This has got to do with English becoming the common ground for conversation among people from different languages. If a native speaker doesn't learn their mother tongue, there is hardly any chance that somebody else will learn it. This way, due to disuse, a language gets lost.

Every language has its stories. Unfortunately, they remain within the language. With globalisation, languages are quickly disappearing. The Kodava language, also called Coorgi, Coorg or Kodagu, is an endangered language. When a language disappears, the knowledge that was associated with it also disappears. A lifestyle and culture which goes with the language vanishes as well. Translations are unable to completely capture the essence of a story in its original language.

How do you want this book to make an impact?
These days the visual media has taken up space from the print media. Not many people read books. In the past, parents and caretakers would tell children stories to make them eat and sleep. These days, we tend to allow them to watch YouTube and other videos on smartphones and television. Visual media leaves less room for imagination. Children get addicted to devices and tend to lose out on their creative skills. I hope the habit of reading books makes a comeback. Most successful storytellers are often not authors but script writers. We cannot stop the march of globalisation and progress. Also, I hope filmmakers would make more movies on folklore in our country.

Why is Kodagu often a central subject in your books?
I was born in Kodagu and brought up in Bengaluru. My entire education was in Bengaluru. My younger sister and I would spend our vacations in Kodagu. I would write on various topics. Around ten years ago, I began a blog. I also wrote to the newspapers. I noticed that my articles on Kodagu found more acceptance than others. This must be because a number of people consider me to be an expert on matters pertaining to Kodagu. So, I continued to write about it.

The lessons from each of the stories in the book are plenty, yet you mention only one or two at the end of each chapter. Was it with the intention of making parents and children draw their own interpretation?
To be frank, I initially had long paragraphs on the lessons learnt. The editor Arpita Nath wisely recommended just a couple of lines for each moral lesson and made cuts wherever required. The children and their parents can then go back to the story and discuss it in detail among themselves and understand the lessons better.

What's in the pipeline?
I hope to write more books for children and for other audiences as well. There is another book in the pipeline, this time for older audiences. The manuscript is complete. I have sent it to my book agents.

FEELING LUCKY? TRY DICEY DUNGEONS

ARE YOU GAME?
Anusha Ganapathi
@quofles

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

Lady Luck has a game show. She turns the contestants into 6-sided dice and puts them in fancy costumes. I am first handed the warrior-shaped die and nudged into a dungeon. The warrior rolls towards the silly-looking enemies. The game is an absurd experience — it's equal parts ridiculous and calculated strategy. Picture this: you are forced to roll the dice to decide the fate of a battle. But then it's not all luck — there's also tiny calculations that could affect the outcomes. What items must be equipped? Is it more efficient to use the higher die roll on a rusty sword over a power crystal?

Lady Luck is smart. She realises that you are getting bored after the first couple of levels. What happens next? She animates more dice. I soon meet the thief, the witch, the inventor, and the robot. Dicey Dungeons is creative with adding complexity to these new characters. The inventor for example, is also self-destructive. A counter-intuitive idea, but the character purposefully destroys an invention to make room for another gadget after each fight. The other characters are no less weird. The witch assigns a number to each of the spells learnt. Rolling the number on the available dice would enable that power. Each of these characters have unique 'limit breaks', or as I'd like to call it — 'rage mode'. Luck isn't always favourable, and these limit breaks provide interesting bonuses to the character to give them an edge. For example, warrior unleashes a furious string of attacks, and the inventors dice rolls all turn into six-es. Now as you would assume, once the novelty of the characters wears out, the game could potentially get a bit tiresome.

But Lady Luck knows all. She introduces new upgrades and items in treasure crates at each level. I once made the thief drink a bear potion. A sentence I never though I'd type, but the thief-shaped die turns into a bear-shaped die and now mauls all the enemies till they collapse. For a story that features dice participating in a tortuous game show, the general vibe is chipper. It's been over two years since the game released, but the developer has continued to improvise Lady Luck's winding dungeons. The bonus episodes of her game show include a Halloween Special and a Reunion. While it has been available on the PC, Xbox, Nintendo Switch an even Android and iOS, the game released for the PlayStation this month.

CITY READ

Hotel chain to offer online food delivery

Marriott Bonvoy on Wheels will deliver epicurean delicacies through the Club Marriott South Asia mobile app to its customers. Through this app and the website, customers can now instantly order their meals, opt for an easy takeaway, or gift a customised meal. In addition to providing real-time table reservations, with this new service extension guests and members can now indulge in decadent menus from restaurants such as Bengaluru Baking Company (JW Marriott Bengaluru); Alto Vino (Bengaluru Marriott Hotel Whitefield) and Feast (Sheraton Grand Bengaluru Whitefield Hotel & Convention Center) to name a few. The curated menus will feature a variety of dishes, including appetisers, entrees, vegan-friendly specials, and desserts.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mutturaj Shivashankar Bhavikatti S/o Shivashankar Residing at No.577/590, 5th Main, 11th 'A' Cross, Girinagar, BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560085 have changed My Name to **MUTTURAJ BHAVIKATTI** vide affidavit dt.23.02.2023 before notary Dr. Smitha M. Bhavikatti, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SURESH BHAT,** S/o **Vaikunth Bhat,** R/at No.39, Ashirvad Nilaya, 6th Main, 6th Cross, Jnanajyothi Nagar, Bengaluru-560056, have changed my name to **SURESH V BHAT** vide affidavit dated: 25/2/2023 Before Notary **Ratna. N** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Nathan Jerushah Emerald**, D/o. Kalliappan Nathan Timothy, residing at No. 27, 2nd Main Road, Shabari Nagar Layout, R.K. Hegde Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 077, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Loganathan Jerushah Emerald** to **Nathan Jerushah Emerald** vide affidavit dated 24.2.2023 sworn to before Prakasha .C, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NEHA .S**, D/o. Srinivasan, aged about 20 years, residing at No. 38/1/1, 12th F Main Road, Bandappa Garden, Muthyalamma Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 054, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **S. SNEHA** to **NEHA .S**, vide affidavit dated 24.02.2023, sworn before B. Anjaneyalu, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr. NAGENDRAKUMAR NAGARAJAN**, residing at NO.368, J.R.GREEN PARK, ANEKAL, CHANDRAPURA MAIN ROAD, MARASUR, BENGALURU RURAL, KARNATAKA-562106, declare that I have changed the name of my Minor Daughter from **NAGASHANJIKA NAGENDRAKUMAR** (Old Name) to **SHANJIKA NAGENDRAKUMAR** (New Name), henceforth my Daughter shall be known and called as **SHANJIKA NAGENDRAKUMAR** (New Name) for all her personal, educational, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 24/02/2023 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SAHANA NAGARAJ** M/o SANMITHA GURURAJ BHARDWAJ (Dob : 06-09-2017) residing at : # 324, 10th Cross, Eshwara Temple Road, MSR Nagar, Mathikere, Bangalore - 560054 have changed my minor Daughter's name from **SANMITHA GURURAJ BHARDWAJ** to **SAMANVITHA GURURAJ** vide affidavit date 24.02-2023 sworn to before Notary Public G.P.CHAYA, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **NINGEGOWDA M R,** S/o. **Raju**, R/at No.307 2nd Floor Ekadantha Residency behind Ganesha Temple, Kanakapura Main Road, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru-560062, have changed my name to **NINGEGOWDA,** vide affidavit dt:25.02.2023 before Notary **K.V. Mani,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I Aamiya, D/o. Mr. Amar Nath, aged about 27 years, R/at F-01, Indio Residency, Doddakanneli, P.O.Carmelaram, Bengaluru - 560035, Karnataka, India. I have changed my name from '**AAMIYA**' to '**AAMIYA AMAR NATH**'. Vide affidavit dated 25.02.2023, Sworn before Advocate and Notary Indira S.S, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SRI AMRUTH KUMAR SWAMIGALU**, Guru Sri Chidghanaswamigalu, Utharadhikari of Ganjam Math, Mamul Pet, Bangalore, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **AMRUTH KUMAR** to **SRI AMRUTH KUMAR SWAMIGALU** vide affidavit dated 24.02.2023 sworn to before Uday Kariyappa .B.G, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SATISH HALEMANI**, Aged about 41 years, S/o. Chandrashekhar Halemani, Residing at No. # M-1-56, Adarsh Nagar, Bijapur, Karnataka - 586 103, presently residing in Bangalore, do hereby declare that **CHANDRASHEKAR HALEMANI** and **CHANDRASHEKHAR HALAMANI** both the names belongs to my father only and same person. Vide affidavit dated 24.2.2023 sworn to before C.K. Anupama, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) RAJEEV Residing at Flat No. B-3 Santara Magan Place, Phase-2, Daya.MK, BG Road, Kammanahalli, Bangalore-560076. Have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) RAJEEV** to **(NEW NAME) RAJEEV SINGH** vide affidavit dated 13.02.2023 sworn Notary P.C. RAMAIAH, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, JAREENA KHANAM, aged 61yrs, Resident of No. 437, 8th 'A' Main, Marenahalli, Jayanagar 5th Block, Bangalore-560041, have changed my name to **ZAREENA KHANAM,** vide affidavit dated: 25.02.2023 before Notary K.V. MANI, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANTHOSH KUMAR S,** S/o **Shivanna C S** , R/at No.44, EWS, 2nd Cross, 2nd Stage, KHB Colony, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru- 560079, have changed my name to **SANTOSH S** vide affidavit dated: 25/2/2023 Before Notary **Ratna.N** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mahoksha Iyer S/o Late S.Gangadharan, resident of No 025, VAASTU HILL VIEW 2.Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru-560098, have changed my name from **Sanjeev Gangadharan** to **Mahoksha Iyer.,** vide affidavit dated 23/2/2023 sworn to before N. Sandhya advocate and notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Tejas Honey Sequeira**, S/o. Rose Mary Sequeira, Aged about 38 years, Resident of # 28/2, Manandvadi Road, Shivapura Mysore, Mysore South, Mysore - 570008, today at Bengaluru, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **TEJAS HONEY SEQUEIRA SEQUEIRA** to **TEJAS HONEY SEQUEIRA** vide affidavit dated 24.2.2023 sworn to before V. Rajashekhara, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mr. ANIL KUMAR MARUTHI,** Residing at NO.29, 4TH MAIN, R.M.V. 2ND STAGE, NEW BEL ROAD, BENGALURU-560094, KARNATAKA, declare that I have changed the name of my Minor Daughter from **NAKSHA SPOORTHI SHREE MARUTHI GOURAV** (Old Name) to **NISHA ANIL** (New Name), henceforth my Daughter shall be known and called as **NISHA ANIL** (New Name) for all her personal, educational, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 24/02/2023 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) MAMTA Residing at No. 26, 1st Floor, 1st Main Road, Jagajyothi Layout, Nagadevanahalli, Bangalore - 560056. Have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) MAMTA** to **(NEW NAME) MAMTA DEVI** vide affidavit dated 22.02.2023 sworn Notary KC SHASHIKALA Bangalore.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
For Classified Advertisements Contact:
9448689473
9886550650
080-22866893

Mallika Singh roped in for Suni-Vinay Rajkumar film

The romantic drama, which is on floors, also stars Swathishta Krishnan as one of the female leads

Mallika Singh

Vinay Rajkumar

CE FEATURES

THE first schedule of Vinay Rajkumar's upcoming film with director Suni was recently wrapped up. While anchor-turned-actor Swathishta Krishnan, who was part of Kamal Haasan's *Vikram,* has already been signed for the project, the latest is that actor Mallika Singh has been roped in to play one of the other female leads.

While Swathishta plays a journalist, Mallika is likely to play a role of a Kashmiri girl. Known for her role in the popular Hindi serial, RadhaKrishn, which also had a dubbed version in Kannada, Mallika made her film debut with *Gully Boy.* This will be her first project in Kannada.

Bankrolled by Mysuru Ramesh, an official announcement about Mallika Singh part of romantic drama is expected to be out soon.

Meanwhile, Vinay has completed shooting for *Andondittu Kaala,* directed by Keerthi, and *Pepe* by Sreelesh Nair, which is getting ready for release. He also has *Gramayana* in the pipeline. On the other hand, Suni is also helming *Gathvaibhava,* which stars newcomer Dushyanth, and Ashika Ranganath.

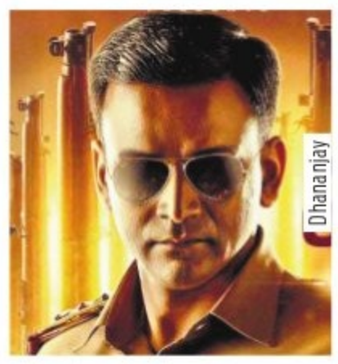
Dhananjay's *Hoysala* mass title track is out

CE FEATURES

THE title track of the much-awaited film, *Hoysala,* starring Dhananjaya, has been released. Composed by music director Ajaneesh Loknath, and written by Santhosh Ananddram, the track is sung by Nakash Aziz with Yogi B rendering his voice for the rap bit. The track was launched on Saturday during the KCC match at Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Presented by Vijay Kirangandur and produced by Karthik Gowda and Yogi G Raj under the KRG Studios banner, *Hoysala* is slated to release on March 30.

Directed by Vijay N, the mass entertainer features Dhananjay as a cop. The film also stars Amrutha Iyengar as the female lead, and has an interesting lineup of actors, including Achyuth Kumar, Pratap Narayan, Naveen Shankar, Avinash, and Raghu Shivamogga.



Dhananjay

KD TO MARK SHILPA SHETTY'S COMEBACK IN KANNADA?

Prem-Dhruva Sarja's upcoming film made under KGV Productions already has a big star cast with names like Ravichandran and Sanjay Dutt

A SHARADHAA

DIRECTOR Prem's big-budget multilingual project, *KD,* starring Dhruva Sarja is currently on floors. Bankrolled by KVN Productions, *KD* has Crazy Star Ravichandran in a pivotal character, and Sanjay Dutt playing the antagonist.

The latest speculation about this project is that Shilpa Shetty will be making her comeback to Kannada with *KD*. Incidentally, Shilpa made her Kannada debut with Ravichandran in *Preethsod Thappa* (1998). She later followed it with *Ondagona Baa* (2003) starring the Crazy Star and made an strong impression in a film with Upendra, *Auto Shankar* (2005).

After over a 17-year gap, Shilpa is set to return to Kannada with the Prem directorial, and an official confirmation about the same is awaited from the team.

Meanwhile, the shooting of *KD* is currently on track, and the makers have come up with massive sets for the action entertainer.

Earlier in an interaction, Prem assured that *KD*, which is based on a true incident and set in 1968-1978, is not a regular period film, and will have a strong moral centre and an effective romantic angle apart from the action sequences. While Arjun Janya is scoring the music for *KD,* the makers have not revealed the rest of the cast, including the female lead.

Dhruva Sarja

Shilpa Shetty

Abhimanyu Kashinath, Apoorva team up for *Suri Loves Sandhya*

CE FEATURES

ABHIMANYU Kashinath, who is awaiting the release of his comeback film, *Yallige Payana Yavudo Daari,* directed by Kiran Surya, has now signed his next project. Titled *Suri Loves Sandhya,* the film will mark the directorial debut of Yadav Raj, who has written the story, screenplay, dialogues, and lyrics for the film.

Billed to be a romantic drama, *Suri Loves Sandhya* produced by KT Manjunath will have Apoorva starring opposite Abhimanyu. Prathap Narayan, who will be seen as a villain in Dhananjay's *Hoysala,* will play the antagonist in *Suri Loves Sandhya,* which also stars Pallavi (*Uttamaru)* and BowBow Jayaram in pivotal roles.

The makers plan to start shooting in the first week of March and have shared the first look of the lead actors, who are collaborating for the first time.

Speaking to *CE,* Yadav Raj says that he is happy to begin his directorial career with a love story. "The shooting of the film will take place in locations of Bengaluru, Kolar, and Maddur among other places. We are also planning a shoot a song in Maharashtra."

SN Arunagiri, the composer of noted Tamil films *Goli Soda* and *Chandi Veeran* will be scoring the music for *Suri Loves Sandya*. Allaka JV and B Srinivas will handle the cinematography. The film will also have stunt master Dinesh Kaasi (*Michael*), editor Ujwal Gowda, and dance choreographer Raj Kishore as part of the technical team.

Billed to be a romantic drama, the project will mark the directorial debut of Yadav Raj

Abimanyu Kashinath and Apoorva

Posters of the film

IT'S A WRAP FOR *REACHER S2*

CE FEATURES

THE filming for the second season of Prime Video's Reacher has been wrapped up, the streamer announced through their Twitter handle on Saturday. The hit action-drama is based on the best-selling Jack Reacher novels by Lee Child.

On Twitter, Prime Video posted a short clip in which actor Alan Ritchson is seen in his Reacher outfit with blood on his face. Announcing the wrap he says, "I just came offset. Reacher Season 2, the last scene is done. As you can see, things got a little crazy. We promised things will be back bigger and better than ever. And we did not lie." He then moves towards a giant clapboard, saying, "We do it Reacher style, here it is to close out the season," as he claps the giant board. "It's officially done. Season 2 is back bigger and better than ever. We promised we would, and the proof is in the pudding."

The popular book series, Jack Reacher, was already developed into a film franchise starring Tom Cruise in the lead. However, the Prime Video series is not connected to the film franchise. The Reacher series was developed for Amazon Prime Video by Nick Santora, he is known as the writer/producer of many superhit shows like The Sopranos, Prison Break, and Law and Order. The first season of the show received unanimous praise, following which it was renewed for a second season. Apart from Ritchson in the lead, the series also stars Malcolm Goodwin, Willa Fitzgerald, Chris Webster, Bruce McGill, and Maria Sten in supporting roles.